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Hamilton-Wentworth  
Regional Police

# Annual Report

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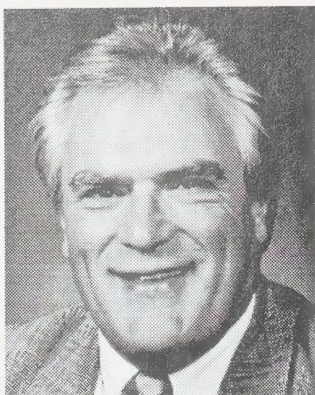




# Contents

<b>Police Services Board</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Chief's Message</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Community Partnerships</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Crime Prevention</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Law Enforcement</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Team Approach</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Awards and People</b>	<b>44</b>

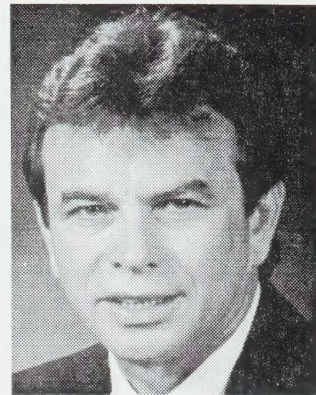




*Bernie Morelli*



*Surinder Abluwalia*



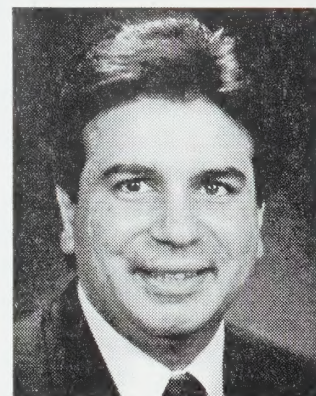
*Peter Shebib*



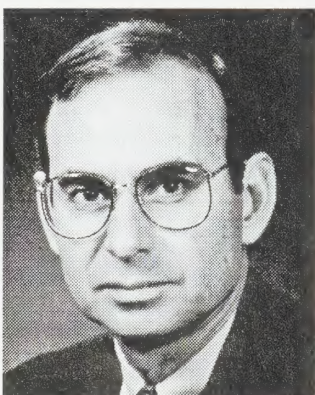
*Terry Cooke*



*Sylvia Kajiura*



*Tom Jackson*



*Robert Prowse  
Board Secretary*

*The Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth Police Services Board is comprised of seven appointed members; two from the Provincial Government, three from the Regional Government, two from the community at large and one secretary supplied by the Region, who meet regularly with the Chief of Police. They have the ultimate responsibility for providing police services in our Region. Some of their duties are: to determine, with the Chief of Police, general objectives and priorities; to establish an Employment Equity Plan; to receive reports and review the administration of the Public Complaints System. The Board will also establish policies and may make by-laws for the effective management of the Police Service.*





**Patricia Saunders**

## **Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police Services Board**

### *Comments From the Chair*

This report documents a year of significant accomplishments for the Hamilton-Wentworth Police Service, as we continue our commitment to community policing. When reviewing this report, we need to keep in mind that while community policing appears to be a new philosophy, it represents a return to the historical roots of policing which recognizes that the maintenance of order, the prevention of crime and the resolution of crime and disorder problems, are the shared concerns and responsibilities of the community and the police, working together in partnership.

The enhancement of our existing partnerships and the development of new ones resulted in the Board of the Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police Service moving to expand its membership from five to seven persons. We began 1995 as a newly expanded Board with three municipal appointees. We welcomed Councillors Morelli and Jackson and re-welcomed Chairman Cooke in his new role as Regional Chair following the November 1994 Municipal election. In March of 1995 we greeted Surinder Ahluwalia as our fourth provincial appointee.

During the year, the Board met on a regular basis to review policies, receive reports from the Chief, prepare the budget and act as trustees of the public interest. We attended Provincial Training Conferences with a view to the "pursuit of excellence" in providing civilian governance to police services. In addition, we attended and participated in three public forums, on the West Mountain, East Mountain and Stoney Creek. The concerns expressed by those who attended will be taken into consideration when the Board meets to establish its own strategic objectives for 1996.

On balance, the Board ended the year on a positive note despite major economic challenges and personnel changes. Of significant importance in terms of personnel changes was the resignation of Deputy Chief Christine Silverberg who left to become Chief of Police for the Calgary Police Service. While her tenure with the board was of short duration, her contribution to the management of the service will remain as a testament to her competence.

Also the end of the year witnessed the retirement of James Garchinski as a Police Officer and Administrator of the Police Association. It was in this capacity that Jim was known to the Board and we wish him well in his retirement. While we lament the loss of everyone who left the Service, either through retirement or resignation, we anticipate the arrival of 25 new officers whose hiring was approved within the 1995 budget.

Our future will be a challenge and for the most part this is due to circumstances beyond our control. The Board prepares for 1996 confident that we have the support of all of our "partners" and that we possess the ability to face whatever challenges lie ahead.





## Chief's Message

For the past several years, our Service has been undergoing a gradual but crucial evolution. While maintaining our commitment to respond to crime, we have moved to a community consultative style, working towards an integrated response to community safety. This requires a close working relationship with partners who reflect our belief that crime-fighting, safe streets and quality of life are shared responsibilities.

That is the heart of community-based policing: consulting with our communities to ensure their needs are expressed and that a proper response occurs. Initiating this strategic consultation through internal reorganization and external interaction has been tremendously difficult. Through necessity, we have maintained what is in effect parallel systems, one designed to meet the daily demands of traditional policing while another creates and implements new policies and procedures that make us more accountable to our community. It has been difficult to commit resources to consultation when they are needed for direct law enforcement. I am proud to say that this Annual Report illustrates how members of our Service have continued their commitment to community-based policing in 1995, despite these difficulties.

One example of a positive and successful partnership is the Landsdale/Stinson Community Centre. The members of this community believed their area was under siege by prostitutes, drug traffickers and dangerous offenders. They did not submit to an erosion of their community or give in to apathy. They were willing to work with us in order to prevent further deterioration.

Officers from Division One worked with community leaders to identify their needs and develop a community policing centre. Volunteers and a suitable location had to be selected and trained. Finally the centre opened its doors November 8th, and there has been a noticeable improvement in the quality of life in their community since then. I am extremely pleased with this success which resulted from a new and lasting co-operative effort. I look forward to similar opportunities elsewhere in the Region where the need is clearly identified.

Community-based policing is an attitude and a process, not a particular program or effort. It means continual change, to meet evolving needs. A successful police service will be the one that embraces this evolution. I can assure our community that we are accountable to them and committed to this process. I believe we, the community and our members, are again defining the standard of excellence in policing.

R. Middaugh  
Chief of Police





## Deputy Chief's Message

### *1995 "Another Year of Excellence"*

The 1995 annual report is a tribute to the leadership of our Commanders and Supervisors and the outstanding commitment to public service by all members of this Service. As we approach the next century, our pursuit of a "New Service Delivery" will establish this organization as one of the world's premier police agencies.

The exceptional teamwork among all divisions helped community partnerships grow and improved support for the front-line officers who in turn, provided quality service to our citizens. Cross-functional teams created "road maps" towards the successful implementation of Mobile Data Terminals and the Trunked Radio System. Similar joint efforts, led to the successful recruiting of 37 Police Officers and 28 Auxiliary Officers.

Our Victim Services Branch provided support for 900 victims of serious crime and our year-round "Ride-Lanes" reduced the trauma and tragedy associated to impaired driving.

The School Liaison Pilot Program was met with great success in our high schools and it will become a region-wide program in 1996. The distribution of 140,000 "Police Pogs" to youngsters in our public schools represents an investment in our future.

Two very successful Break and Enter Projects led to 140 arrests and the recovery of over \$600,000 in stolen property. "Project One Call" brought national recognition for our Service with the arrest of several members of organized crime on charges of conspiring to import cocaine.

Building bridges, improving technology and increased community partnerships are the dynamics that will launch the Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police into the next century.

K. Robertson  
Deputy Chief



## Deputy Chief Departs

1995 saw a double-edged "first" for our Service. Deputy Chief Christine Silverberg, the first woman in Ontario to hold such a high ranking position in a police service, resigned to go to Calgary where she became the first woman in Canada to be appointed Chief of a major police service.

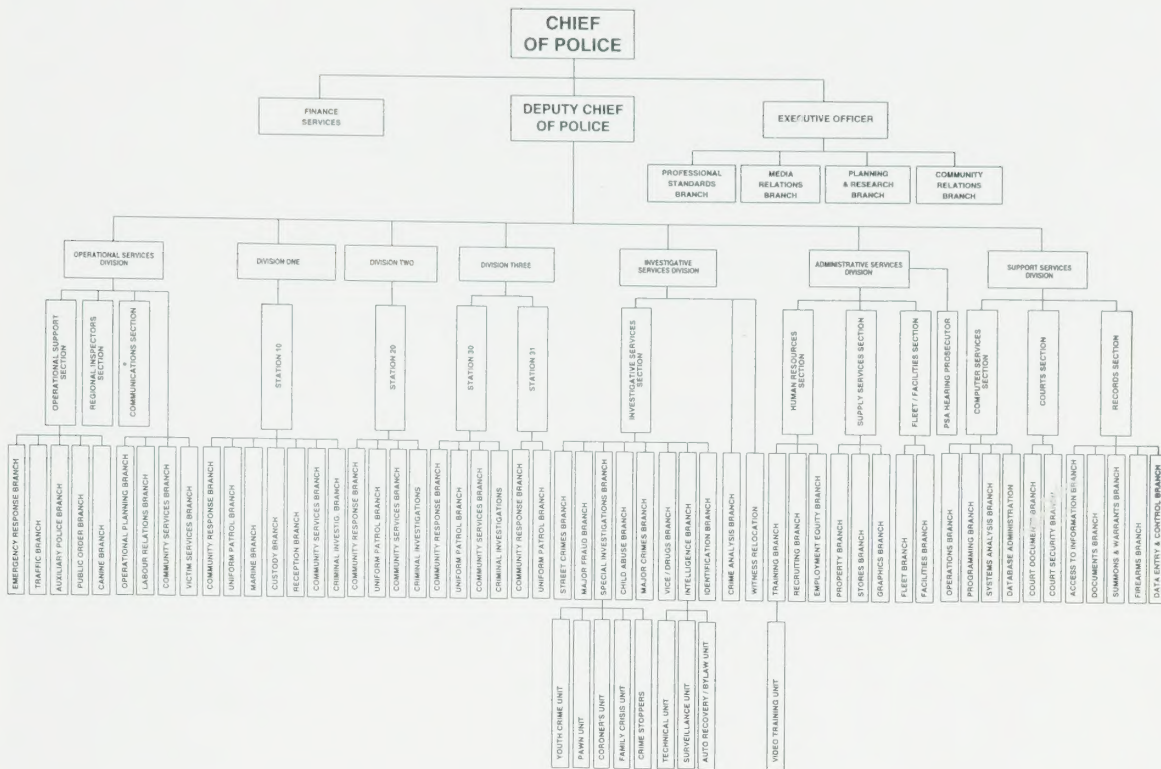
Calgary, located in the province of Alberta, has a population of approximately 754,000 (1991 figures) with a police service of approximately 1,600 staff. The selection process for the position was national in scope, and included a process of consultation with the community, with members of the Calgary Police Service and with members of the Calgary Police Commission to determine the issues facing

the new Chief and to develop a comprehensive candidate profile.

Chief Silverberg was our Deputy Chief from September 1992 to the date of her new appointment on November 10, 1995. In that position, she was in command of the Administration Bureau which provided support functions such as human resources (including recruitment and training); financial services; information technology; records management; communications; fleet and facilities management; supply services (including graphics support); and court services (documents and security).

Christine is committed to the pursuit of excellence and continuous learning. She is an intelligent, articulate, enthusiastic and dedicated officer. In addition, she is a warm, caring and personable human being. We are immensely proud of her accomplishments and confident that she will be as successful in meeting her new challenges as she has been throughout her career. Calgary's gain was definitely Hamilton-Wentworth's loss.





## WHERE ARE WE RIGHT NOW?

Between 1991 and 1994, our Service embarked on a strategic management process and implemented new service delivery initiatives towards a community based policing philosophy. To meet present and future challenges, reorganization was necessary to ensure that our organization is appropriately linked to the new service delivery. After several years of significant change, a Service-wide evaluation titled "Where are we right now?" was conducted in 1995 to ensure organizational efficiency, effectiveness and economy.

The Project was assigned to Inspector Tom Marlor and he was

given a 6-month timeline. Each month, Inspector Marlor presented his findings to the Chief's Management Team and Division Commanders debated the implications. By October, the final report was presented to the Police Services Board for approval. In the meantime, the departure of Deputy Chief Christine Silverberg gave our Police Services Board the opportunity to restructure the organization and eliminate the Deputy Chief of Administration position.

Additional changes saw one Staff Sergeant position created on every squad in each of our three divisions, one Regional Inspector transferred to Administrative Services and the Court Documents

Branch reduced by four Acting Sergeants and one file clerk. The three remaining sworn positions will be civilianized into one generic job description. Also three stenographer positions will be created at Central Station which will cause some adjustments in Patrol Divisions 2 and 3.

It is projected that these proposals will be implemented within the first six months of 1996 and save approximately \$300,000. With increased public demand for accountability and budget restraints, these reorganization initiatives were necessary to ensure that we continue to perform our service effectively and efficiently.



# Community Partnerships

A black and white photograph of a man in a military uniform splashing in water. He is in the foreground, looking towards the camera with a slight smile. In the background, a young child is visible, wearing a dark shirt with the word "ICE" on it. The setting appears to be outdoors, possibly at a beach or a pool, with a chain-link fence and some foliage in the background.



## A RECORD YEAR FOR RECRUITING

Over the past few years, the sworn strength of our Service has declined as members leave and budget restraints limit hiring. However, in 1995, a significant amount of recruiting and hiring of police officers was accomplished. There were three groups of new recruits hired: five in January, eight in April, and twenty-five in September, for a total of thirty-eight new police constables. They are the foundation of our future. It is through them that we will be able to make significant changes in our culture and direction as we face a difficult future.

Although employment equity regulations were withdrawn by the Provincial Government in 1995, we are still committed to the principle of ensuring that our work force is representative of the community we serve. We have expanded our outreach recruiting for example, by placing ads in multicultural newspapers, and holding special Career Nights at the Hamilton Regional Indian Centre. Our police recruiter has also been available to answer ques-



*Probationary Constable Course #3 - 1995*

*Back Row (Left to Right) Constable J. Ritums, C. Culp, J. Cattle, K. McKnight, T. Banbury, D. Wide, M. Salebe, A. Bisson, I. Martin, A. DaSilva.*

*Middle Row (Left to Right) K. Bramwell, T. Eldridge, A. Abrams, A. Ottay, J. Byers, R. Hardy, R. McCullough, P. Martin, S. Burnick, R. Lester, M. Schulenberg.*

*Front Row (Left to Right) I. Boiago, Constable S. Nicholson, Sgt. P. Baron, Chief R. Middaugh, S/Sgt. G. Wide, B. Frazier, D. Edelmann.*

tions at all of our forums with various visible minority communities.

Although a large proportion of our new police officers (40%) are still white males, we are gradually increasing the diversity of our work force. In 1995, 40% of the police officers hired were women, 21% were racial minorities and 8% were aboriginal.

We continued our recruiting efforts and interviewed another large group of people for available positions in 1996. An additional twenty-five candidates were identified and are currently on a waiting list.

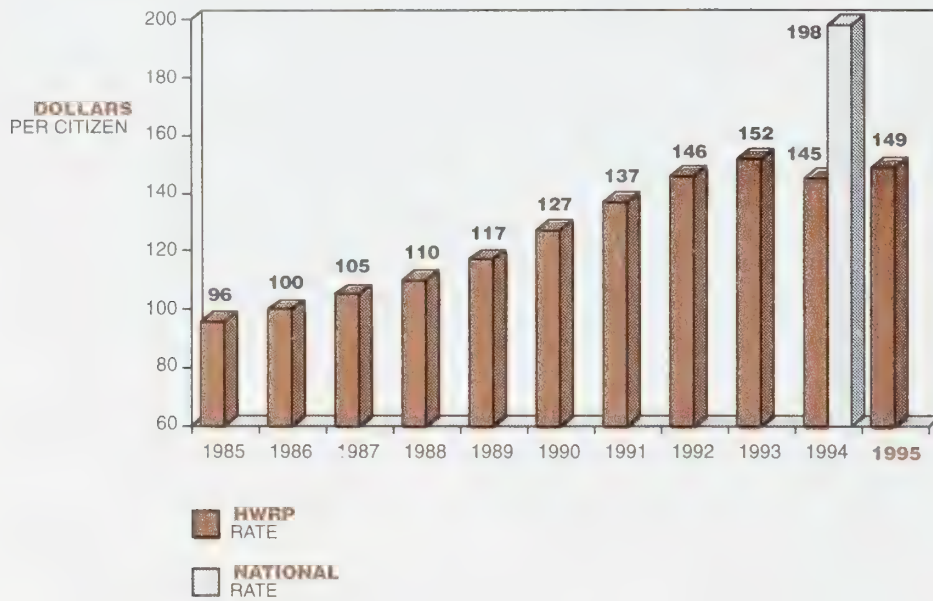
## 1994 - 1995 PERSONNEL STATISTICS

	<b>1994</b>		<b>1995</b>	
	<b>(FEMALE)</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>(FEMALE)</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Senior Officers	(2)	21	(1)	20
Staff Sergeants / Detective Sergeants	(0)	22	(0)	21
Sergeants / Detectives	(4)	125	(4)	125
Constables / Detective Constables	(52)	482	(67)	509
<b>TOTAL CIVILIANS</b>	<b>(155)</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>(166)</b>	<b>245</b>
<b>TOTAL STAFF</b>	<b>(213)</b>	<b>881</b>	<b>(239)</b>	<b>920</b>

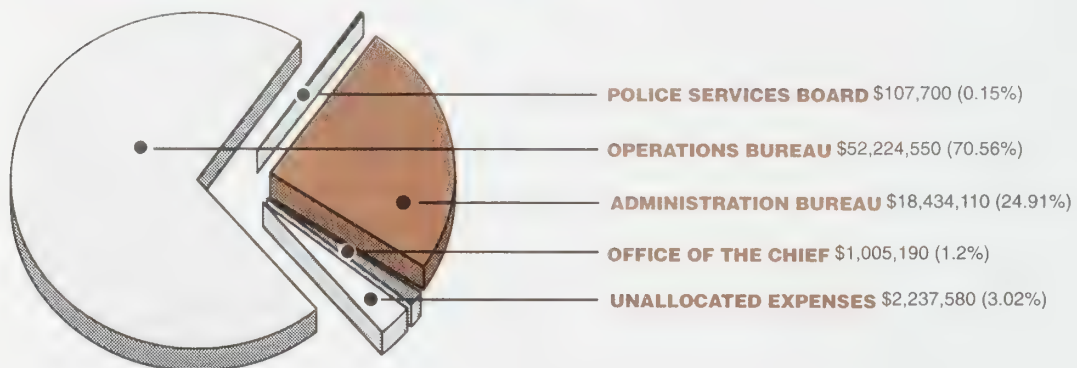
Actual Strength December 1994 & 1995



## PER CAPITA POLICE SPENDING



## 1995 BUDGET BY PROGRAM





## COMMUNITY POLICE CENTRES

Springing up like wild flowers, Community Police Centres are the fruit of our New Service Delivery. At the heart of these centres is Community Based Policing, where police and citizens join together to improve the quality of life in their Neighbourhoods.

The Centres are designed to physically bring the police and our community together. Staffed by volunteers, these Centres

become our outreach to the community and give us an opportunity to inform, learn and be seen by the community we serve. Jackson Square, Landsdale/Stinson, Waterdown Village Plaza and Beasley Neighbourhood, are all places where volunteer staff are able to meet the mandate required for the Centres. These centres bring us one step closer to realizing "the people are the police and the police are the people".

## TOWN HALL MEETINGS

Quality Service is an important goal for the Hamilton-Wentworth Police Service. During 1995, a variety of concerns surrounding

Community Based Policing and Differential Police Response were voiced by citizens. On September 14, our service assisted Aldermen Don Ross and Frank D'Amico in holding a "Town Hall" style meeting with citizens at school auditoriums in their Ward. Aldermen Tom Jackson and Bob Charters held two more meetings in their Ward, also on the mountain, on November 15 and November 20.

Chief Middaugh and his senior staff attended, along with various community service and beat officers and answered questions from the community. There was a lively discussion on all sides and specific complaints were documented for further investigation. Chief Middaugh has decided that these meetings were so important that we intend to hold further sessions around the Region, as part of the community input process, prior to developing our next Strategic Plan re-fit.



*Left: Constables Brad Clause and Denise Leonard meet the kids in Beasley Park. Below: Chief Middaugh responds to a citizen's question during a community meeting on the mountain.*





## **IROQUOIS HIGHWAY CHALLENGE**

On July 26, 1995, eleven participants from the Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police paddled down the Grand River, as part of a native awareness program called the "Iroquois Highway Challenge".

This is the third year the program has operated, but it is the first year that Hamilton Wentworth Regional Police participated. Jane Mulkewich, Community Relations Co-ordinator, organized the involvement of police personnel.

The program is organized by the Pine Tree Native Centre of Brant, and is funded by the provincial Ministry of Citizen-ship. The first two years of the program involved police from the RCMP, OPP, Brantford, and Six Nations police service.

Each police representative was paired with a native person, and spent about two hours canoeing down the Grand River, the Iroquois Highway, between Paris and Brantford. At 3:00 pm the

*Participants in the Iroquois Highway Challenge join forces to ease the "work" on the Grand River.*



challenge concluded with a traditional native social at Brant Park in Brantford.

The program has proven to be successful in helping to establish a foundation for understanding and respect between native people, police and corrections services.

## **MINORITY FORUMS**

One of our strategic directions is to enhance service with racial, ethnic and community groups by conducting surveys of minority groups. In 1995, Planning and Research set out to survey four community groups: the Aboriginal Peoples, Chinese, African Heritage (Black), and the Sikhs. These groups were chosen from a policing perspective as they have expressed concerns about safety within their community.

The community groups were invited to attend community forums to complete a questionnaire and provide input. Prior to each forum, meetings were held with informal leaders of the identified groups and our Community Relations Coordinator to jointly plan the event.

During the four community events - the Gathering, the Out-

reach, Building Bridges and the Sangat, police personnel were on hand to explain the purpose of the survey. After completing the survey, participants were able to ask questions of a police panel and talk about community policing or any other concern. Feedback received during these forums was documented and will be analyzed for future planning purposes.

Community consultation is an important way to help us meet present and future challenges. We have established significant milestones with the four forums and we intend to continue the consultation process on an ongoing basis.

## **ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

There are seven different advisory committees working with the Hamilton Wentworth Regional Police, consisting of volunteers from throughout the community. They meet regularly to discuss current issues and make their views known to our police service.

The oldest existing advisory committee is the **Hamilton Wentworth Council on Police, Race and Community Relations**, established in 1989. Detective Jorge Lasso, the first "Ethnic and Race Relations Officer," was largely responsible for establishing this Council.

The Hamilton Wentworth Council on Police, Race and Community Relations is a 15-member advisory committee to the police service, which meets monthly. The mandate of the Council is: to provide public education and awareness to the community at large about policing issues and services; to facilitate dialogue and conflict resolution between the commu-



*Officers and members of the Sikh community join together to discuss concerns regarding policing.*

nity and the police service; to consult with and provide advice to the police service through the Chief on a range of community relations issues and high profile incidents involving racial, cultural and ethnic minority individuals and groups, and; to review current and new policies and procedures that impact on the community and identify the need for additional policies where warranted.

### **The five other citizen advisory committees are as follows:**

- Chief's Citizen Advisory committee
- Advisory Committee to Superintendent of Division 1 (Central)
- Advisory Committee Superintendent of Division 2 (East End and Stoney Creek)
- Advisory Committee to Superintendent of Division 3 (Hamilton Mountain, Dundas, Flamborough and Ancaster)
- Advisory Committee to Superintendent of Investigative Services

These informal committees meet to discuss community needs and policing issues. Members are responsible for reporting community concerns to the Chief and Superintendents and offering advice on how to resolve the issues. In addition, members are kept informed about policing initiatives and they are encouraged to pass this information onto members within their communities.

Similarly, the **Victim Services Advisory Committee** works with the Superintendent of Operational Services and advises on policy, recruitment, selection and training of Victim Services volunteers.



Advice from these committees has been extremely worthwhile in our continuing efforts to identify the needs and concerns of the community and then assisting us to respond appropriately to their concerns.

### **ANTI-RACISM INITIATIVES**

In 1995, the Provincial Government's Race Relations and Policing Unit gave two separate grants to police race relations initiatives in Hamilton-Wentworth.

One grant was made to the Vietnamese Association of Hamilton-Wentworth, who are working with the police to organize a series of crime prevention seminars for the Vietnamese community. It is hoped that these seminars, planned for 1996, will build communication and dialogue between the police and the Vietnamese community.

A grant was also given to the our Service to conduct Anti-Racism and Inter-cultural Awareness Training for senior managers. A steering committee consisting of both police and community members has been

working hard to organize a 5-day training program for all 27 senior managers (from Inspector level to the Chief of Police), which will take place in 1996.

### **Other highlights of 1995 include:**

- In partnership with the United Steelworkers of America District 6, we distributed thousands of pogs to area school children with the logo "Let's Fight Racism Together".
- An internal Race Relations committee was established, consisting of police officers of varying ranks as well as civilian employees.
- A native policing committee was formed, which is fostering positive relationships between the native community and the police.
- Two tours were organized for police recruits, to familiarize them with diverse services in the community such as Ontario Welcome House, Cultural Interpreting Service, Hamilton Regional Indian Centre, and the Black Youth Achievement Centre.

These initiatives are in addition to the continuing support for the Hamilton-Wentworth Council on Police, Race and Community Relations





## **“WIN A COP!”**

“Giving yourself to the community” took on a whole new meaning in 1995 for several officers at our Dundas station. As an added bonus to a “Security for Seniors” seminar in May in Waterdown, four Dundas officers put themselves up as a “door prize”.

The winner obtained the services of the officers for four hours, to do any chores around their home. Sergeant Bill Gravelle, and Constables Jamie Anderson, Dave Couture and Rich Floriani were “won” by Allen and Evelyn Chappel. They needed a new roof on their shed - and the day they arrived to do the work turned out to be the hottest day of the year! Despite the brutal heat, magnified by the dark

shingles, the four showed up and completed the task as promised.

The event was so popular, and the officers enjoyed themselves so much, that they did it again for a fund-raising “silent auction” for St. Joseph’s Villa in Dundas. Constable Sedgewick Villabroza stepped in on behalf of Sergeant Gravelle, and Constables Anderson, Couture and Floriani returned again to trim trees, tear down a garden wall, and clean windows for the lucky recipients.

The officers plan to continue to “give themselves to the community” again in 1996 at appropriate events.

## **PROJECT CONCERN**

Project Concern continues to be an enormously successful community outreach for our police service. Project Concern is our Community Charity Fund that is funded by payroll deductions from members of our police service.

Every year, the board of directors decide on how the over \$32,000 will be distributed. The unique aspect of Project Concern is that it is run by volunteers and there is no administration cost. This means that the total amount collected goes directly back into our community. Project Concern funds several large, ongoing projects, like Ronald McDonald



House, St. Joseph's Ambulatory Centre, Special Olympics, as well as the Chedoke McMaster Children's Hospital.

This year, Project Concern introduced the Dress Down Days to augment their funding so more money could go to community outreach. In the last 20 years the charity has raised well over 1/2 million dollars which has been donated to local charities. Project Concern provides an opportunity for our police service to make a difference and support the many other organizations that help the people we serve. Project Concern is showing we care.

presented the idea to the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) as a program they might like to embrace throughout the world. The concept was adopted wholeheartedly by the IACP and since that time the Torch Run has grown to include 80 runs in 23 countries throughout the world involving 60,000 runners and raising close to \$10 million in 1995.

In 1985 the concept was introduced to Metropolitan Toronto Constable Lorne White and in 1986 the first Torch Run in support of Ontario Special Olympics was implemented in Toronto with the

worth Regional Police took part for the first time in the Law Enforcement Torch Run with a run through the streets of Hamilton. Since then members of the Hamilton law enforcement community including Correctional Services, RCMP, and Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police personnel have succeeded in raising over \$500,000 by way of the annual Torch Run and other fund-raising initiatives for Ontario Special Olympics. Hamilton-Wentworth has consistently been one of the top producing agencies for the Ontario Torch Run which has been recognized as the number



## HISTORY OF THE TORCH RUN

In 1981 Police Chief Richard LaMunyon of Wichita, Kansas recognized the need to raise funds and increase awareness for Special Olympics in Kansas. He conceived the idea of a symbolic run by law enforcement officers who generated pledges to support Special Olympics. After three years of successful runs in his home state, he

bleeding of the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP). At that time, 3,420 adults and youths with a mental handicap benefited from the Ontario Special Olympics programs. Funding provided for the Ontario Special Olympics, primarily through the Law Enforcement Torch Run, has increased that number significantly with 7,908 registered athletes in Ontario in 1995.

In 1987, the Hamilton-Went-

one fund-raising program in the world for Special Olympics.

In 1995, more than 70 law enforcement personnel, several Special Olympian athletes, and even a horse took part in our Torch Run. Hamilton runners took over the "flame of hope" torch from Niagara participants one evening in June and ran through the rain to Station 20 (East End Station) where they stopped briefly for festivities. Despite the weather, a





## **COMBAT AUTO THEFT (CAT)**

To combat the ever-increasing problem of auto theft in Hamilton-Wentworth, our police service embarked on a public awareness

and education program called Combat Auto Theft. This new program, funded by the Hamilton Automobile Club and administered by Crime Prevention Ontario, has become a useful tool in slowing down the auto theft trend.

CAT is a voluntary program that encourages vehicle owners who do not ordinarily drive their vehicles between 1 a.m.- 5 a.m., to put a highly visible decal on the rear window of their vehicle. This decal indicates the owner has given the police consent to stop the vehicle if it is being driven during those hours.

The goal of the program is to prevent auto theft and reduce deaths and injuries. Insurance studies have shown that stolen vehicles are 200 times more likely to be involved in crashes than other vehicles.

Investigating the use of CAT, Detective Ken Bond realized the benefits of bringing this program to all of Ontario and eventually the concept was turned over to Crime Prevention Ontario.

The CAT program has been very effective in other communities with a reduction of stolen autos in New York, British Columbia and Alberta. The bottom line is that very few vehicles

number of the local and corporate mascots appeared and after a few brief speeches, the runners carried on to Station 10 (Central) where the torch was retired for the night.

The following morning, runners carried the torch to Gore Park where a community breakfast was held courtesy of McDonald's Restaurants, and a cheque presentation was made to local Special Olympics representative Jim Burrows by Chief Middaugh. Also in attendance and participating in the presentation were Solicitor General David Christopherson, Regional Chairman Terry Cooke, and Deputy Chief Robertson. Runners then departed with the torch, turning it over to Halton runners at our border, some 27.6 km from where it was picked up the night before.

The Hamilton law enforcement community is dedicated to being part of the Law Enforcement Torch Run and look forward to 1996 when we celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Run in support of the Ontario Special Olympics.

## **IT'S A KID'S CHRISTMAS**

In its fourth year, the Kid's Christmas Party at Carmen's Banquet Centre is a one-of-a-kind event, showing the caring and sensitive side of our police service. Organized and run by the directors of Project Concern and volunteers, the Kid's Christmas Party is for 500 less fortunate children in our Community.

With the assistance of social services agencies, our police service puts on a great party with entertainment, clowns, face painting, pizza, cake and a special visit from Santa Claus. In 1995, over 900 guests attended this event.

Transportation is provided by Wills Bus Lines, food by Carmen's and their many suppliers, and gifts are purchased by Project Concern, to make Christmas a joyous and wonderful time for the less privileged children of our Region.



get stolen when they have a CAT sticker in the window. This is another great initiative that we know will make a difference in our community.

## **MASSIVE SEARCH ENDS IN TRAGEDY**

The search for a missing Mohawk College Student in 1995 revealed the caring nature of our community.

The body of a 25 year-old Mohawk College student was found in the Dundas Valley Conservation Area, thirty hours after one of the largest ground searches ever conducted in Hamilton-Wentworth. The Ancaster resident had been reported missing after she

walked into the conservation area, which borders Ancaster and Dundas, on the evening of August 13, 1995. She was mentally distraught and had a medical condition which required the daily intake of insulin.

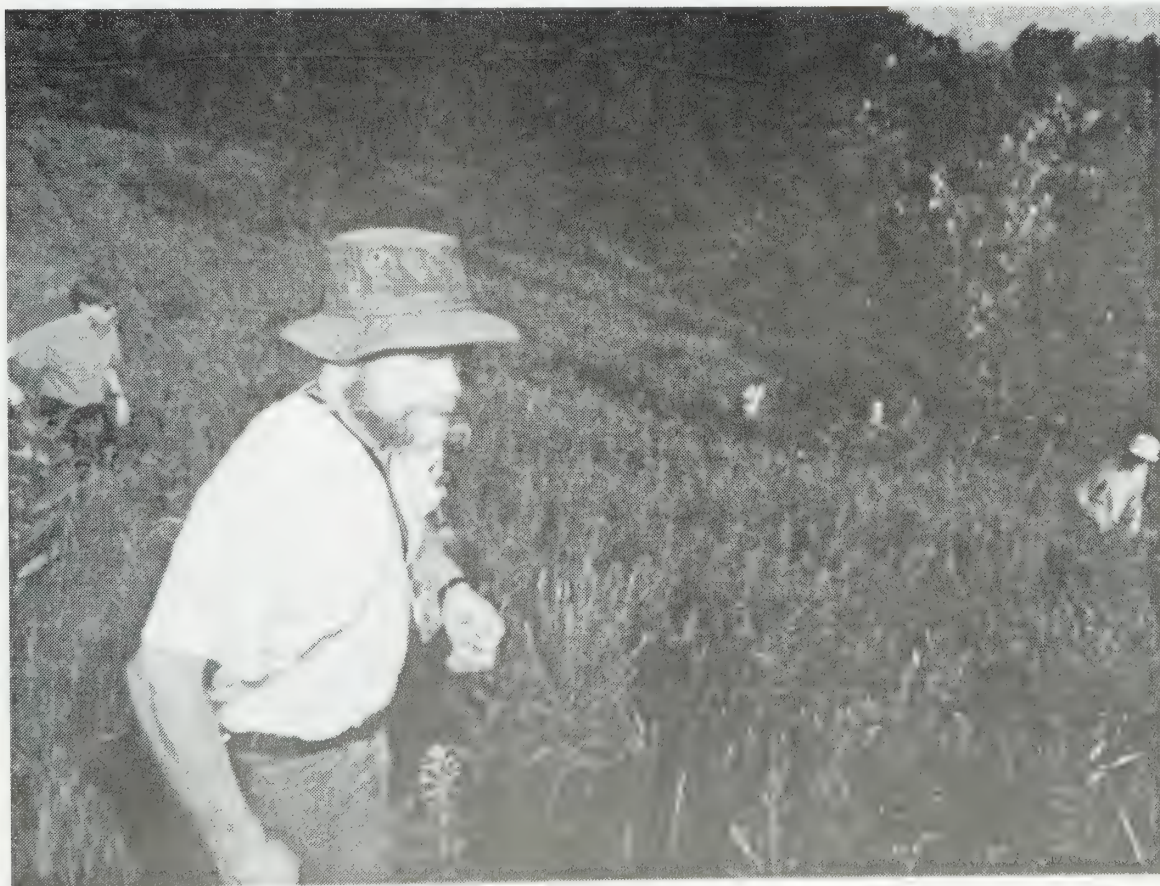
Over 160 people took part in the search which covered very rugged terrain and thick underbrush. A heat wave where the humidity reach 44C (110F) also had to be endured. The community rallied to the search in the following manner:

More than 65 volunteer police officers from our Service, Halton Region, and the O.P.P. took part along with 20 fire-fighters from Flamborough, Ancaster and Dundas; 24 Hamilton Region Conservation Area (HRCA) workers; 65 citizen volunteers; three police dogs; a six-dog search-and-rescue

team volunteered by a local trainer; 20 people on horseback to scour more distant sectors of the conservation area and an O.P.P. helicopter with body-heat-seeking capabilities searched from the air.

To support these efforts, businesses in the area provided much needed water and food and beverages for the searchers while extensive media coverage encouraged other volunteers. We were extremely grateful to all of our community partners for their support during this tragic event.

*Volunteers trudge through heavy ground cover under difficult weather conditions in a search for a missing person.*







# **Crime Prevention**



## POLICE WEEK

Police Week is an opportunity to support and promote the activities of Policing in our Community. This year's theme was Community Partnerships. During the week, members from our organization planned activities and events to meet with the citizens of Hamilton-Wentworth.

In Dundas, for the second year, the officers staged a Charity Barbecue for the Cancer Society.

*Below: Sergeant Dave Cummins serves up hot dogs to several young customers. Right: Police Week holds activities for community members of all ages.*

Hot-dogs, door prizes and a chance to mingle with the men and women in blue was the right combination to make this year's event even more successful. This year, Officer Liz Latner arranged for a Senior's Safety Seminar. Held in Waterdown, the event gave seniors safety tips on Crime Prevention and also highlighted the support that is presently out there in the community for them.

During Police Week this year, school tours of our buildings, Citizenship Court as well as a food drive were all featured. At Lime Ridge Mall, our Traffic Branch held the High School Driving Challenge as well as a display featuring the many aspects of policing. Project Concern held a spe-

cial event day for the children of Extend-a-Family and Neighbourhood Watch had an Appreciation Night for all their co-ordinators and volunteers.





## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Neighbourhood Watch is alive and well in Hamilton-Wentworth. You might even say that our Region has one of the most active Neighbourhood Watch groups in the country. This is never more evident than during our annual Awards Appreciation

*A youngster gets a chance to sound the emergency siren on display in a cruiser during Crime Prevention Week.*



Night. Over 63 citizens received citations in 1995 for assisting our police service in fighting crime. This is up 300% from several years ago. One of the reasons for this drastic increase is that people are now getting involved. Neighbourhood Watch is one of the ways people receive training and learn what they can do to help fight crime.

Another indicator of a successful Neighbourhood Watch organization is the National Night-Out festivals held throughout our Region. During the first

week of August, over ten thousand residents involved in Neighbourhood Watch from across the Region are invited to join millions of citizens and law enforcement agencies from across North America in supporting National Night-Out against Crime. With over 10 large festivals in our Region, these events heighten crime prevention awareness, strengthen neighbourhood spirit and police community relations.

This event sends a clear message to the criminals, letting them know that neighbours are organized and fighting back. The National Night-Out festivals are lots of fun with concerts, security displays and an opportunity for the community to meet their local beat officers.

## CRIME PREVENTION WEEK

Crime Prevention Week, held annually in November, is an opportunity to educate the citizens of Hamilton-Wentworth about crime prevention techniques and citizen involvement in the fight against crime. This year's focus was on Auto Theft Prevention and Personal Safety.

Booths promoting the Combat Auto Theft program were set up at local malls, gathering over 1,000 registrations for the program. Many contacts were made throughout the Region educating the public on what they can do to prevent auto theft.

Also during the week, information seminars were held at Central Police Station on Traveling Alone, Personal Safety and Security, Fraud Prevention and



Robbery Prevention. Numerous other presentations were conducted during this week at Dofasco, Sheraton Hamilton and at Neighbourhood Watch meetings. Public service announcements for Auto Theft Reduction, as well as "news" articles to heighten the awareness of crime prevention were also featured.

## POLICE POGS

Our police service again demonstrated its leading-edge thinking with the introduction of Police Pogs. Neighbourhood Watch, the United Steelworkers and Operation Pal helped fund these limited edition pogs to be given as a teaching aid for anti-violence and safety.

The concept of Police Pogs was developed in response to the negative publicity that pogs were receiving i.e. that

children were fighting over them. Our Service saw this as an opportunity to teach and lead in our effort to educate the citizens of tomorrow.

Seven different pogs were designed by our Graphics Branch with the entire concept being developed by Constables Carmen Balinson and Brian Urie. Over 140,000 were printed and distributed to Grade 3 and 4 students during visits from Community Services Officers.

The messages on the pogs include Operation PAL, Bicycle Safety, Say No to Drugs, Emergency 911, Anti Racism, Stay Alert-Stay Safe and Neighbourhood Watch. The response to the Police Pogs was excellent and

*Constable Brian Urie hands out Police Pogs to anxious young students at a media conference.*

they became an effective tool in our educational programs.

## ANGER STRANGER

In response to the ever-increasing fear of convicted pedophiles living in our community, our Service developed and implemented an educational program to teach inter-city children street-proofing techniques. During the summer, three Jobs Ontario youths were hired to teach the concept of the Danger-Stranger program. At the conclusion of the project, over 60 parks and 1,200 children had been reached and given street-proofing. With a ready audience, our students also used this opportunity to instruct the children on pedestrian safety through the Kidestrian program. Understanding the community's concerns and providing crime prevention information to address those concerns, is a key to keeping all citizens safe.





## OPERATION BUS WATCH

Operation Bus Watch entered its second successful year in 1995. Introduced to Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police by Constable Myra James, the program is designed to make motorists more aware of their responsibilities when approaching or overtaking a school bus with the red lights flashing and stop arm extended.

Operation Bus Watch requires the co-operation of the three school boards and the six bus companies within the Region. "This program works because of their involvement", says Constable James.

When an offender is observed, the bus driver radios their dispatcher with the licence number and description of the vehicle. The dispatcher faxes the information to HWRP's Traffic Branch where the identity of the registered owner of the vehicle is determined. An officer will then follow-up the incident by either

mailing a cautionary letter or conducting an "at home" interview. "Most of the time no charges are laid but, if the witness can positively identify the offender, and is willing to go to court, we will lay charges", says Constable James.

The program also accommodates reports from School Crossing Guards and parents using a similar method of reporting. All details about every violation are recorded and analyzed.

If there is a trend in a certain area, the appropriate policing division is notified and officers pay special attention to that area.

Monthly reports are sent to all agencies involved. "This is a very positive part of the program because it provides regular feedback to the school boards and bus companies and at the same time reinforces a partnership that has been created" says Constable James.

## CACTUS FESTIVAL

*The Town of Dundas is well known as the Cactus Capital of Canada, thanks to its greenhouse operations growing the prickly plant. Part of that fame is also the result of the annual Cactus Festival. On August 17th, 1995, our Service made its Festival parade debut and took top honours.*

*"A" Squad, Station 31, took a personal interest in the parade. They resurrected the old replica paddy wagon from its resting place in an area barn, cleaned it up, found a giant farm horse to pull it, dug up some old "Bobby" uniforms and some striped "convict" suits, and wow!-first place in the "Best Overall Effort" category. Not bad for their first time out!*

*Events like this put our Service in a whole new light, and our reception from the public has made the effort very worthwhile.*







This year 604 reports of violations were submitted for investigation with 449 of these concluded with a cautionary letter. Included were 77 violations reported by School Crossing Guards and 52 of those received cautionary letters.

Constable Platz, who has just begun assisting with the program, notes: "We get a lot of positive response. Offenders call us and thank us for bringing their actions to their attention." Operation Bus Watch is a commitment by the Police, school boards, bus drivers and parents to work together to make everyone aware that inattentive drivers will not be tolerated.

## **DISASTER DAY, MOUNT HOPE SCHOOL**

As an emergency response agency, Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police plays a pivotal role when responding to disasters. To ensure our skills are kept sharp, periodic training exercises must be held. These exercises test inter-agency procedures, equipment, and response capability so that if a real disaster happens, personnel will know exactly how to respond.

In June, an "earthquake" struck Mount Hope Public School. Along with fire and ambulance crews, officers from both Mountain and Dundas stations responded. They were greeted by the traumatic sight of "injured" children, with realistic make-up, requiring urgent treatment.

*Constable David Schwalm shows an HWRP cruiser to the students at Mount Hope Public School as part of the disaster day program.*

Clearing evacuation routes, setting up secure perimeters, and ensuring other emergency crews have a safe place to work are all part of the police role at any disaster. The experience from the training exercise will ensure a smooth response should a real emergency ever occur.

The day was finished with a special display of emergency vehicles, including a "jaws of life" demonstration by the fire department, along with Philip Environmental and our K-9 Branch. The more than 300 children who took part received "Police Pogs" from our officers as a reminder of the lessons learned.





# **Law Enforcement**



## **DEOXYRIBONUCLEIC ACID (DNA) PROFILING**

The last 10 years has seen DNA profiling rise from a relatively obscure process to one of the most important aspects of forensic science since the use of fingerprints for identification.

DNA was brought to the forefront of the forensic/legal community during a sensational double murder investigation in England, approximately 10 years ago. The case involved the sexual assault and murder of two young girls who lived relatively close to each other near the same village. Professor Alec Jeffreys, the scientist who discovered the process in 1986, assisted in the case. As a result of analysis of the semen discovered in both homicides, he was able to show that the same man committed both crimes. Further, the man who confessed to the crime, could not have been the source of the semen. The police had 5,000 male residents of the village volunteer their blood samples for analysis, all of which were eliminated. At a later time, the police apprehended a suspect who had avoided the original blood screen. An analysis of his blood showed that he had the same DNA pattern as the semen in both murders. He was found guilty in a subsequent trial. This groundbreaking case was the subject of Joseph Wambaugh's book, *The Bleeding*.

DNA is the chemical from which chromosomes are made and hence it is the human body's chemical blueprint of life. No two people have the same DNA, with the single exception of iden-

tical twins, thus analysis of DNA provides the most precise technique available for identifying an individual. Since the DNA in each cell of a person's body is the same, samples from various body tissues or fluids such as hair root sheath cells, semen and blood can be analyzed and compared.

The analysis of DNA for the Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police Service is carried out by the Centre of Forensic Sciences in Toronto. The responsibility of collecting the comparison samples from the crime scene and the suspect rests with the Forensic Identification Officer, in concert with the investigator who will provide any applicable search warrants.

The new Bill C-104, which received Royal Assent on July 13, 1995, amends the Criminal Code and the Young Offenders Act to allow a judge to issue a warrant authorizing a police officer to obtain samples of bodily substances by means of special investigative procedures for forensic DNA analysis from a person who is believed to have been a party to certain designated Criminal Code offences. This category largely includes sexual offences and crimes of violence.

The statute authorizes a trained police officer to obtain a bodily substance from the suspect, such as plucked hairs, an oral swab or a small blood sample from a pricked finger.

To comply with the legislation, in 1995 the Centre of Forensic Sciences began to train Forensic Identification Officers in the proper procedure for taking these samples. Each officer must pass a practical and written examination in order to be certified. Hamilton-Wentworth Regional

Police have had several of their Forensic Identification Officers certified for this process. There have been a number of cases in Hamilton-Wentworth this year that took advantage of this new, innovative process and we look forward to further advances in forensic / legal technology.

## **SELECTIVE ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS**

Region-wide traffic enforcement programs, held for one or two week periods throughout the year, were aimed at cracking down on aggressive driving, speeding, seat-belt and equipment infractions. These programs proved to be a successful method for increasing public awareness of unacceptable driving behaviour. "The selective enforcement programs are an excellent opportunity for our police service to interact with the driving community, and reinforce the importance of traffic law compliance", says Traffic Officer Myra James.

Equipment Enforcement Week, held March 5 to 11, was designed to make drivers accountable for vehicle violations as well as raise public awareness of the risks associated with operating a vehicle which does not meet provincial standards. "Costs associated with an accident not only affect the driver but also close relatives and friends, emergency services and health care workers. We all share", explains Constable James.

Vehicle maintenance involves both the interior and exterior of the vehicle. For example, exterior maintenance can include headlights, mufflers, dark window coat-



ings and signals. Interior maintenance can involve proper child seat, rear mirror, odometer and an unobstructed view for the driver. During the week-long campaign, 285 vehicles were stopped for equipment deficiencies; 177 motorists received 72-hour warnings and 108 motorists received tickets. Improper headlights

and obstructed licence plates were listed as the most common offences.

Seatbelt Enforcement Weeks, designated by the province, were held for two weeks in both April and October. The goal of the campaign was to determine the approximate percentage of people within the Region who "buckle-up" and focus on increasing this rate through public awareness and enforcement.

In conjunction with this campaign, students from Mohawk College were

posted at intersections throughout the Region to count the number of motorists observed wearing seatbelts. As a result, the Hamilton-Wentworth Region recorded an 87% compliance rate during the April campaign. The aim of the October campaign was to raise our rate by at least 8% to meet the provincial goal of 95 for 1995. Our numbers were slightly less than the target rate, however, a total of 679 tickets were issued during both Seatbelt Enforcement weeks.

Speeding Enforcement Weeks focused on law enforcement, education and visibility. Front-line officers utilized these essential elements during the campaign by turning their contact with offending drivers into a positive opportunity to improve public relations, change views, and educate about the risks involved with speeding.

A media release was issued prior to the program in an effort to build public awareness of the increased speeding enforcement and act as a deterrent. The public was warned that chances of punishment were greater than usual and that the police were instituting a zero tolerance for speeding. In addition, the public was notified that police would be using conventional radar as well as a new laser speed gun. The LTI 2020 "Marksman" works with pin-point accuracy. Speeding enforcement programs ran for one week in April and September and a total of 2,214 tickets were issued. Traffic Offi-

*Constable John Dmetrichuk focused on a speeder using the "Marksman" laser radar gun.*





cer Constable John Dmetrichuk states "the enhanced technology of laser radar is the prime reason that there was a dramatic increase in the number of tickets issued this year".

Aggressive Driving Enforcement Weeks were held concurrently in November. Aggressive driving is defined as speeding, following too close, failure to yield right-of-way, improper lane changes, improper passing and disobeying traffic signs or signals. For years the police have warned against the dangers of driving drunk, now officials warn that aggressive driving can be just as deadly. "The typical aggressive driver is not a reckless teen but rather a 35 year old white male. His cell phone is glued to his ear, the music is pumped up and he's weaving in and out of traffic, hugging the bumpers of cars", reports

Sergeant Ken Leendertse. During this two-week long campaign, 397 tickets were issued.

Through education and awareness the police reminded motorists to maintain their vehicle, slow-down, buckle-up and drive less aggressively.

### **DIVISION 3 TRUCK SAFETY BLITZ**

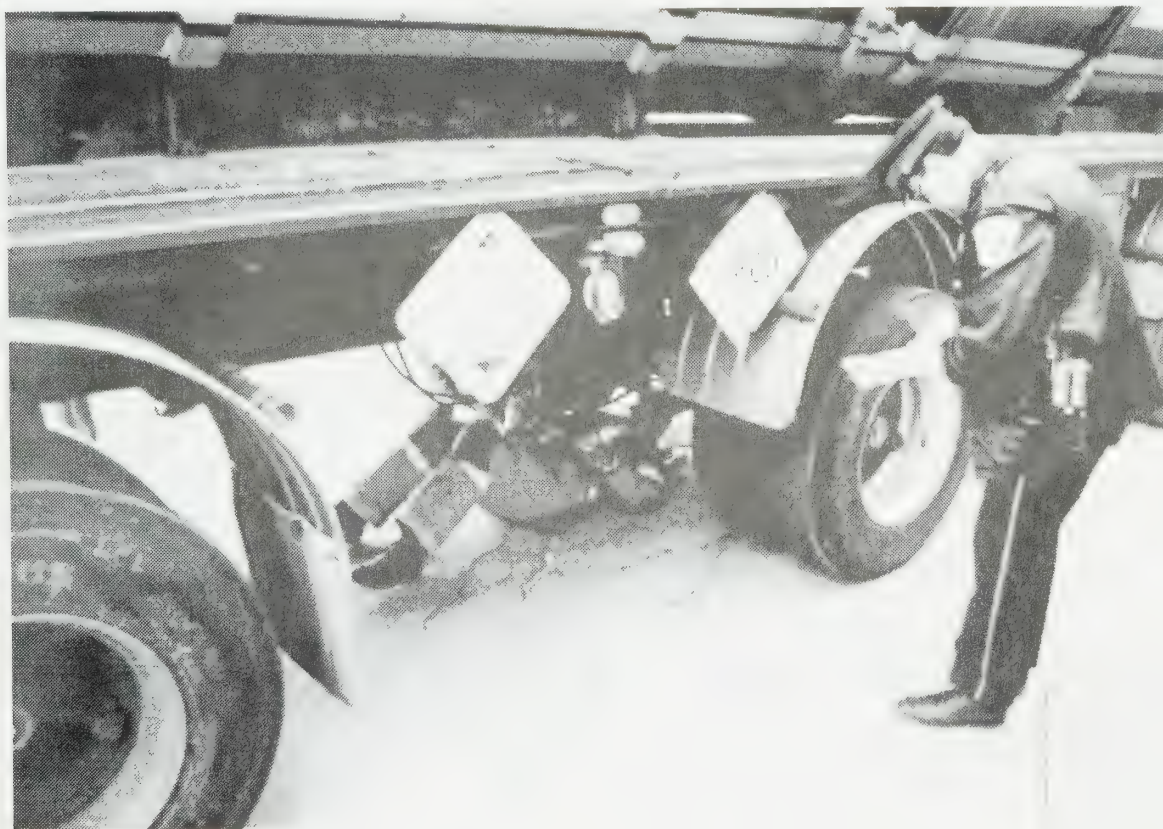
1995 saw a rash of horrific incidents involving unsafe tractor-trailers around Ontario. Many involved the wheels coming off the trailers at high speed and crashing into on-coming traffic, often

with fatal results.

To help remove unsafe vehicles from the road, Division #3, working with the Ontario Provincial Police (O.P.P.) and the Ministry of Transport, Ontario (M.T.O.), mounted a series of truck safety blitzes.

The first inspections were carried out on April 18, prior to the Provincial Government blitz. Our "B" Squad officers, along with the O.P.P. and M.T.O., went to the M.T.O. yards on Highway 2 in Ancaster. Trucks passing through Peter's Corners at Highways 5 and 8 were pulled over into the M.T.O. yards there. Eighteen trucks were stopped and four were "grounded" for repairs on

*An Officer and an Ministry of Transportation representative, work together to record all the vehicle infractions. If more truck safety blitzes are necessary, HWRP now has the expertise in place to make them effective.*





the spot, while one truck was removed from the road completely.

On May 15, "B" Squad, Station 30, operated a truck inspection stop on Highway 6 in Glanbrook, as part of the "Safe on Six" campaign. A local citizen allowed his property to be used for the inspections. Four HWRP officers, two O.P., and three M.T.O. officers pulled over a total of ten trucks. Incredibly, eight were defective. Six were held for repairs, and two more were towed away because they were too hazardous to remain on the road. A total of 19 charges were laid, ranging from unsafe loads to faulty equipment (including tires) to failing to display hazardous cargo notices.

These truck blitzes helped to spark a province-wide campaign to target unsafe trucks. Shoddy truck operators seem to have now received the message, but if further blitzes are necessary, the expertise is now in place to make them effective.

## VEHICLE THEFTS

In 1992, 2,618 vehicles were stolen. In 1993, there was an increase of 70% with 4,440 vehicles being stolen. In 1994, the rate climbed another 14%. In the Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth the incidence of vehicle theft has been increasing enormously during the past few years.

"Part of the increase is certainly caused by young offenders, but I hold the car manufacturers partially responsible because of the ease with which some vehicles can be stolen", says Deputy Chief Ken Robertson. "Our analysis shows quite clearly that when anti-theft devices are installed, the likelihood of vehicle theft drops quickly."

Approximately 80% of the vehicles stolen in our Region are recovered within one week, and most of them have suffered some sort of physical damage from the theft. The vehicles are generally found intact, that is to say they have not been stripped of any

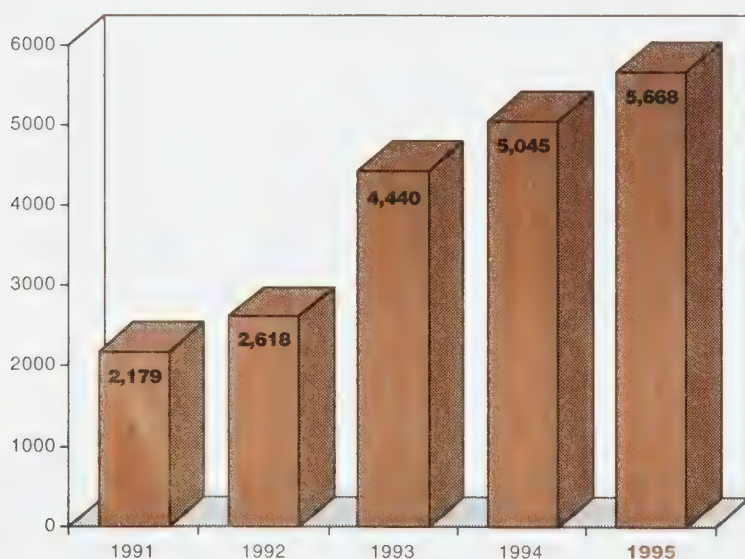
valuable parts. This supports the idea that the vehicles are usually stolen by "joyriders", most often youthful offenders. The remaining 20% of the vehicles are not recovered and are thought to have been 'chopped' or sold abroad by professional thieves for financial gain. The 'Auto Squad' working from the Investigative Services Division focuses on these criminals.

In 1995 there were 47,198 criminal offences of all types, reported in our Region. Of these 5,668 were stolen vehicles, a startling 12% of all reported crime in the Region. There were only 434 persons arrested for motor vehicle theft and of those arrested, 70% were under the age of 19 years. "We had a couple that were only 11 years old, just incredible" says Mrs. Nancy Kaneva, the Crime Analyst for Investigative Services.

Our police service has identified vehicle thefts as a high priority assignment and a number of different initiatives have begun to address this problem. Investigative Services Division and Division 2 have both prepared separate traditional, operational plans to attack the problem. Also a grant was received from Human Resources Development Canada, which will allow us to begin an educational awareness program, to combat vehicle thefts, addressing high school students. This project titled "Community Auto theft Reduction" is ongoing and will commence operations in 1996 from Division 3.

*This chart reflects a five-year analysis of theft of vehicle incidents, "obviously a startling and unacceptable increase."*

**Theft of Vehicle Statistics (1991-1995)**



## TICKETS VS. ACCIDENT RATES

Our work towards reorganization and "efficiency of service" has lead to a change in the manner in which traffic enforcement occurs in our Region. Most of the staff from the old Traffic Division have been decentralized and

re-distributed to the three Patrol Divisions. Along with that redistribution went the responsibility for traffic enforcement and special traffic attentions.

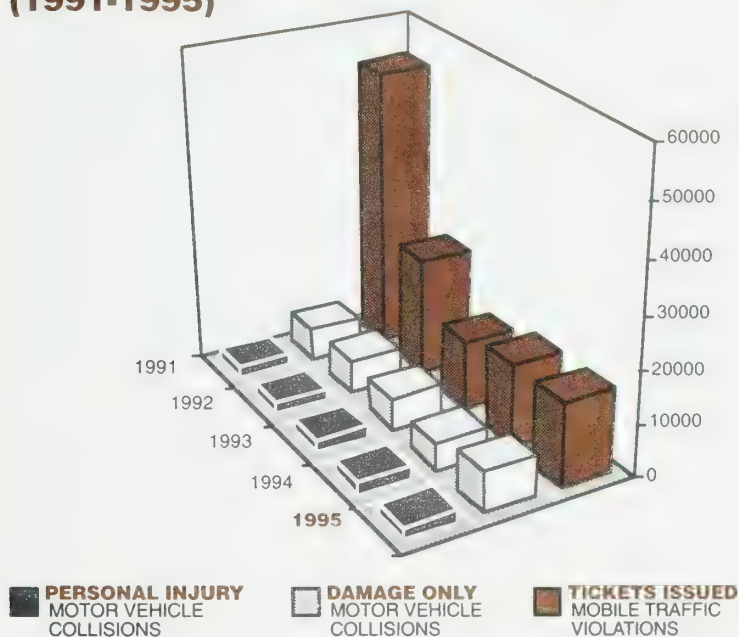
In the past there was a perception that uniformed officers in general and Traffic officers especially could have an effect upon the accident rate in our com-

munity through high traffic enforcement. This often lead to large numbers of traffic tickets being issued. In fact it was standard training for police officers that Enforcement, Education and Engineering were the three foundations for traffic safety.

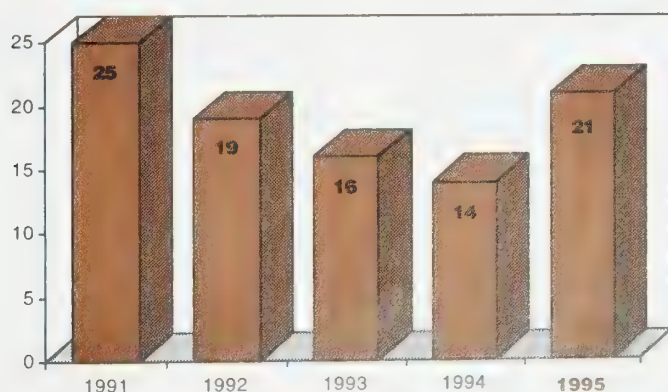
This police service has moved towards a more selective style of traffic enforcement. We no longer judge our traffic work through numbers of tickets issued, but rather through the **quality** of the tickets issued. In other words we are now responding directly to specific community needs and demands rather a generalized high output of traffic tickets.

The accompanying graphs demonstrate that there is little connection between high numbers of traffic tickets and the accident rate in Hamilton-Wentworth. The numbers of motor vehicle collisions has remained constant for the past five years, while our ticket output has been reduced to one third of the former level reports Nancy Kaneva, Investigative Services Crime Analyst.

### Motor Vehicle Collisions ALL TYPES (1991-1995)



### Motor Vehicle Collisions FATAL (1991-1995)



### INTOXILYZER 5000C

Last year saw the introduction of the "Intoxilyzer 5000C" into our continuing battle against drunk drivers. This new technology allows for much swifter, digitized analysis of the blood/alcohol levels of suspects. The new instruments were first introduced in September at Station 20 (East End) and implementation is continuing throughout the Service.

The time required for the arresting officer to wait at the



station while the subject is being tested has been reduced by half. In addition, the instrument allows the Breathalyzer Technician to handle several drunk drivers at the same time. The old style breathalyzer required each suspect to be analyzed consecutively, not concurrently. That processing time period was extensive and if there were other life threatening calls for service waiting, impaired drivers were sometimes treated with less priority. In addition, the old instruments use acid based chemicals which are sensitive to room temperature changes.

"These instruments are an important new tool in our work towards providing the community with a more efficient and effective police service", says Officer Myra James, our Breathalyzer Coordinator. "There is a reduced environmental affect, they let us give the suspects their 'disclosure' documents immediately and currently there are no legal defences surrounding the introduction of this style of breath testing."

## **PROJECT RED LIGHT**

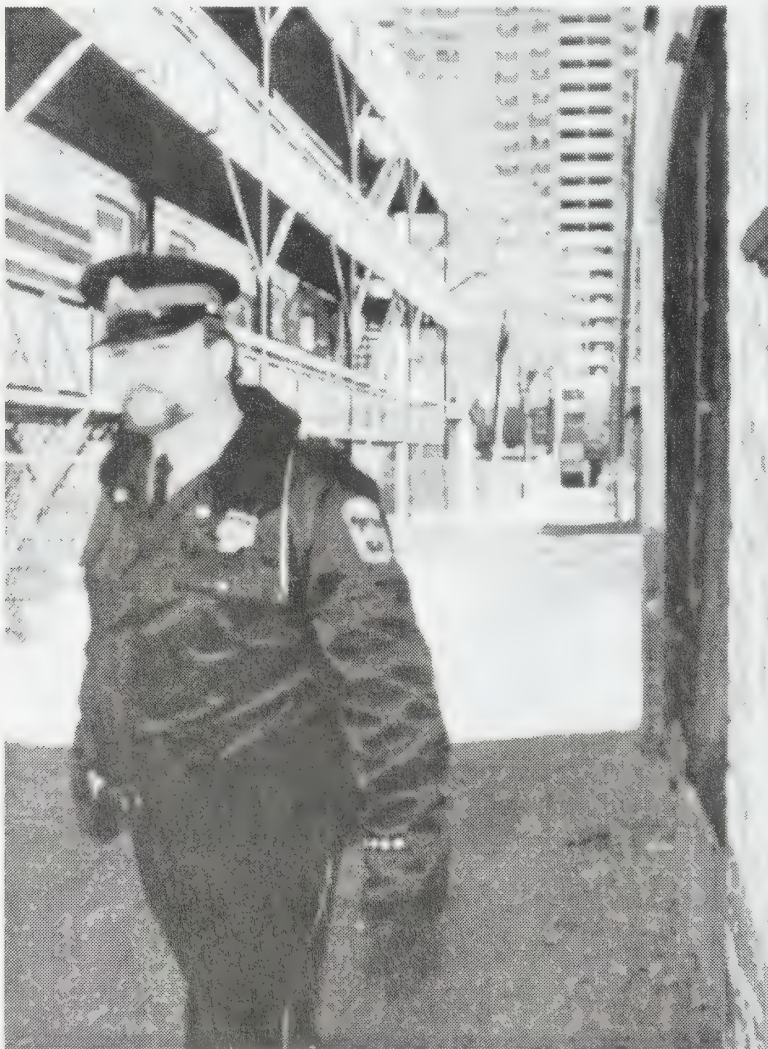
An important campaign for the community was "Project Red Light". During the months of September and October, our police service made 130 prostitution-related arrests in the area of King and Victoria. Ninety percent of the charges were against the "Johns", and forty percent of these people were from out of town. The intent of Project Red Light was to send a message to the prostitutes and their "Johns" that this type of street activity will not be tolerated. These special projects helped police maintain a zero tolerance level in this area.

## **PROJECT ONE CALL**

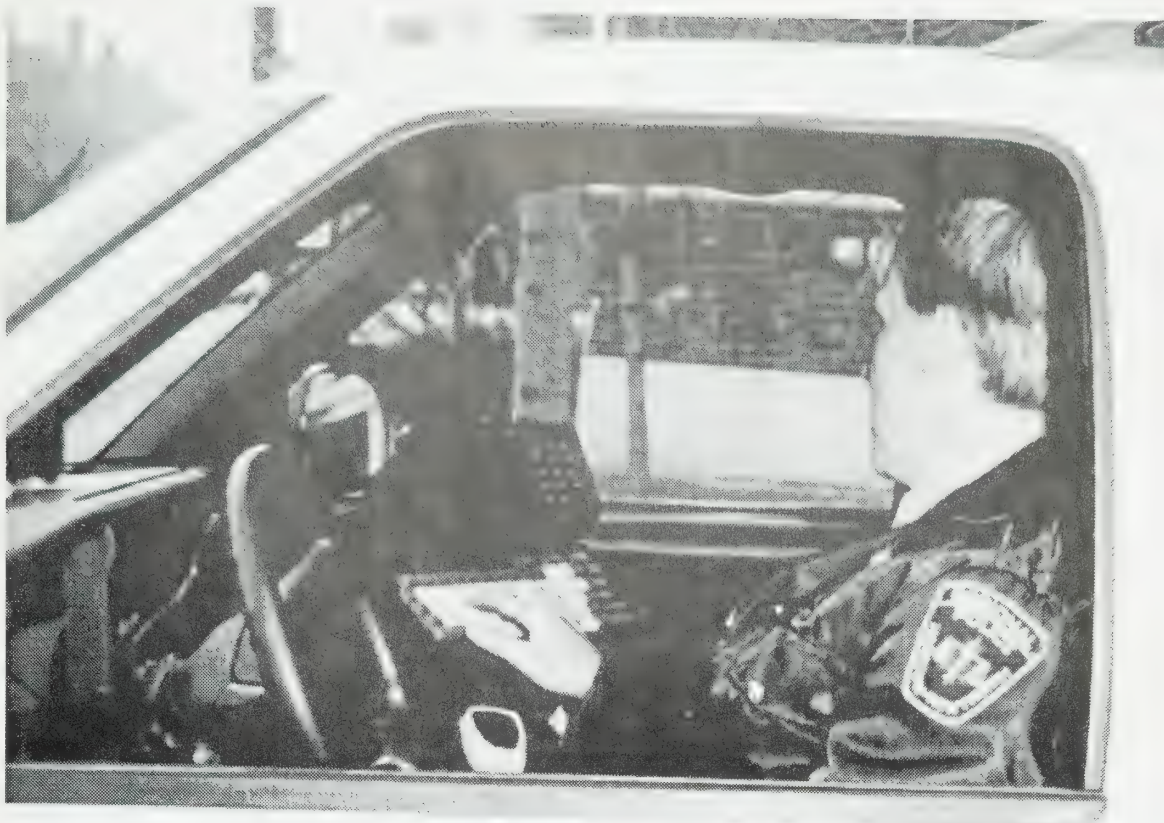
In February of 1994, two "couriers" were arrested in Joplin, Missouri by American authorities in possession of 100 kilos of cocaine. These people were long time residents of the Hamilton area.

A year-long investigation involving our police service, the Ontario Provincial Police and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police was commenced. In 1995, ten local people were arrested and charged with conspiracy to import narcotics and several other criminal offences. Part of the charges related to the original 100 kilos seized in Missouri which had been destined for Hamilton.

Two of the accused people were alleged to be part of a local



*Constable Bob Norrie patrols an alleyway within his beat which is a known prostitution area.*



organized crime family. "They are grandsons of the late Giacomo Luppino, reputedly one of the leaders of organized crime in the Buffalo-Hamilton-Toronto corridor before his death in 1978", according to Deputy Chief Ken Robertson. These arrests were "the most significant drug busts involving organized crime here, in more than a quarter century", states the Deputy. With the continued Joint Forces attention to traditional organized crime groups, we are making a difference".

"This investigation will have a meaningful and long-term effect upon the availability and distribution of cocaine in Ontario and Canada", says Detective Constable Paul Downey.

### **TECHNOLOGY INCREASES SAFETY**

In 1995, two major technological improvements made a dramatic leap forward in our ability to safeguard our communities and our officers. Mobile Data Terminals (MDT's) and our Trunked Radio Network are the peak of high-technology in police service today.

Mobile Data Terminals have long been recognized as an important tool in increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of police services in serving the community. In 1995, we equipped our cruiser fleet with a state-of-the-art Motorola system which is linked to our Computer Aided Dispatch System which we installed in 1994.

*Officers in police cruisers now have quicker access to essential information with the aid of the Mobile Data Terminal (MDT). Here Constable Dave Millsip accesses information on one of the Mobile Data Terminals.*

The Computer Aided Dispatch System greatly enhanced our ability to efficiently manage and prioritize calls for service. It also captures a significant amount of statistical data which assists in planning the most effective deployment of our resources.

"The MDT's further increase our efficiency and contribute to officer safety," notes Superintendent Bob Martin. "Timely information is extremely important to the officer on the street. Mobile Data Terminals provide a



tool for the officer to obtain this information quickly and independently, without tying up Communications personnel. Officers are now able to directly access the Canadian Police Information Computer (CPIC) to check out suspects, vehicles or stolen property."

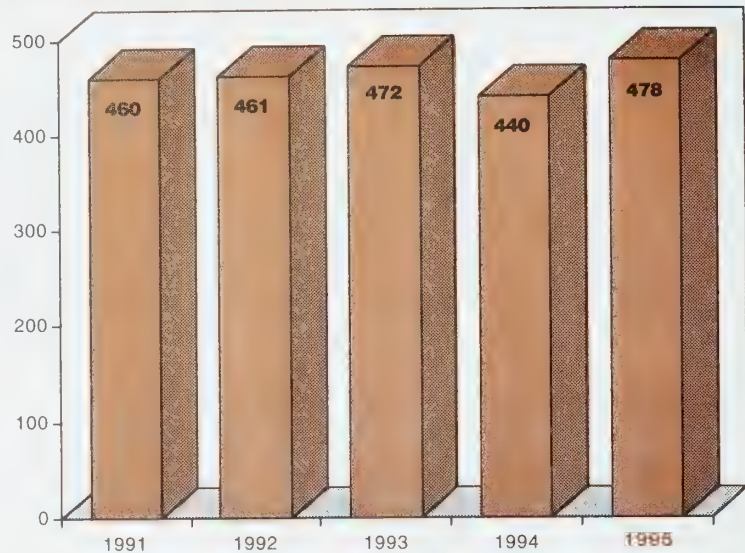
Even more importantly, when an officer is dispatched to a dangerous address a "premises history" automatically comes up on the screen. He or she will be advised of any previous calls to the address within the past 21 days, as well as any information relating to hazards at the address, e.g., vicious dogs, guns, violent people, etc.

The new Trunked Radio System which began operating near the end of 1995, is a sophisticated communications system that links police officers and fire fighters with other emergency personnel in the Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth.

It replaces an antiquated 20-year old radio system which would often disconnect or distort messages and was unable to reach some areas of our Region. These malfunctions left emergency officers vulnerable to dangerous situations. The decision to replace this system was made in the interest of the safety of the police, fire fighters and the entire community.

The new system improves radio coverage, reliability, security and safety. Users of the system have quick access to radio channels and can use a number of channels at once, with more privacy. Presently, police broadcasts are monitored by the media, tow truck drivers, curious citizens and criminals. The Trunked Radio System makes it more difficult

## Robbery Statistics (1991-1995)



*This chart reflects a fairly stable robbery incident rate in our Region over the last five years.*

for the criminal element to monitor our activity, which results in an improved police response.

The system also allows for future growth. It is widely recognized that a co-ordinated response to any large scale emergency requires a swift response from many agencies including the police, fire, ambulance, health services, transit, environment or public works agencies. It is anticipated that non-emergency municipal users will become part of the system in the future. Dispatch consoles are equipped to communicate with all users on the system making disaster management possible from both police and fire communication centres.

These state-of-the-art communication systems are successfully helping our police officers perform their job more efficiently and with greater security.

## ROBBERY TASK FORCE

Traditionally, our community has always been very concerned about armed robberies and they are treated with the highest priority by this police service. In the spring of 1995, we were faced with an increasing number of unsolved armed robberies causing serious concern to our Service and to our citizens.

As a direct result of these concerns, the B.A.G.A.M. Robbery Project operated in May, 1995. This ad hoc task force was composed of officers selected from both Central and the East End Stations. They were assisted by officers from Halton Region, where one of the robberies had occurred. Three men were suspected in a number of unsolved robberies and their weapons of choice included assorted knives, screwdrivers, baseball bats and tire irons.

This task force operated under the direction of Detective Tom Andrew and Detective Constable Mike Cole. The victims

were primarily variety store clerks, gas station attendants and hotel clerks. The suspects were all arrested and charged with a variety of criminal offences after an intensive two week investigation which solved thirteen robberies.

The investigation was greatly assisted by the proliferation of video surveillance cameras that are being installed in many locations throughout our Region. "It is very satisfying to know that when proprietors invest a large amount of money into video security, their investment is rewarded with positive identification of persons responsible for criminal activities", reports Detective Constable Mike Cole. He adds, "The bonding between investigators and citizens is no more evident then when notifying them that a suspect has been arrested and identified from video surveillance. The cost of the surveillance equipment is a direct benefit to their employees and their families".

Another Robbery Task Force was created under the direction of Detective Constables Khris Morine and Glen Jarvie in June, 1995 and they concentrated their efforts in the downtown core of Hamilton. The victims were again primarily retail employees such as variety store clerks or delivery people. This task force consisted of five detectives who were taken away from other duties within Division One, specifically for this assignment.

The task force targeted four suspects who were all eventually arrested. A total of sixteen criminal charges were laid against them, including ten robbery and six weapons charges. One handgun with ammunition was recovered.

Their work was a complete success and the officers are justifiably proud of their accomplishments. As Detective Constable Khris Morine states, "Members of our community are increasingly employed in the 'service industry'. It is very important for us to give them a sense of security, when they are working late at night, with small amounts of cash. After these arrests our community can rest more easily, knowing these people are in jail."

## PROJECT KEEPSAKES

### *"Community Based Policing Works"*

As proof of the effectiveness of partnerships, our police service was able to obtain some corporate sponsorship from the insurance industry and fund a "Christmas Break & Entry Squad".

An eight-person ad hoc team was put together with funding from the Insurance Crime Prevention Bureau. They were able to target break and enter groups who prey upon residential homes. The team recovered more than \$200,000 in stolen property and arrested 35 people.

Approximately half of the suspects were young offenders. Through focused surveillance and concentrated investigation, the officers were able to reduce the number of homes victimized during the annual pre-Christmas period.

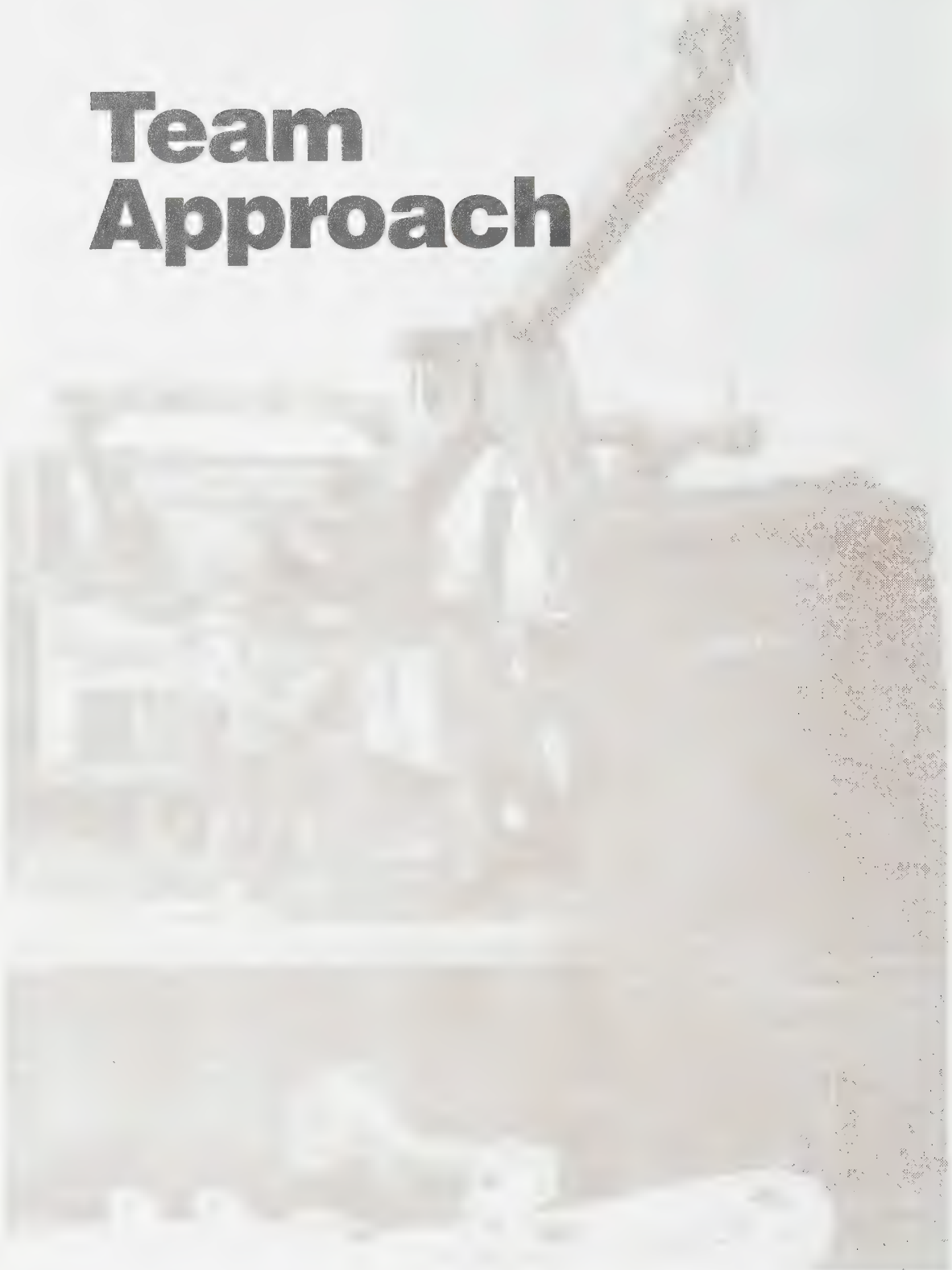
## "DEAR JOHN"

New and innovative approaches are the hallmark of Community Policing. Sometimes when the old proven methods of Law Enforcement or Policing do not work, our police service must look elsewhere for new solutions to ever increasing demands for service. Such was the case in the Landsdale/Stinson communities when the problem of prostitution was escalating. Using lessons learned from the R.C.M.P. in Surrey, British Columbia, Constable Bob Norrie began a letter campaign to address one of the main problems of prostitution- the customers or "Johns".

The Dear John project was simple. The "Johns" in the area would be stopped and identified. Later, our police service would send the driver a letter advising them of problems in the area and requesting their co-operation in staying out of the area. "The idea was not to accuse people of picking up prostitutes", said Constable Bob Norrie, "but to draw attention to problems in the area and let them know our police service is alert and addressing the issues. Our main concern was for the safety of the citizens living in the area and their quality of life".



# Team Approach





## CRIME STOPPERS SUPPORT

Together Everyone Achieves More. Community policing only works if we all pull together and work as a T.E.A.M.

The team of Charlotte and Max Burtschyn first became involved with Crime Stoppers through their work with the Hamilton Safety Council. "For many years Charlotte Burtschyn always came in around Christmas and made a donation to our Crime Stoppers" reports Sergeant Bill Stewart, Crime Stoppers Coordinator. "Max is now continuing that tradition on her behalf and we are immensely grateful."

Crime Stoppers is operated and managed by volunteer mem-

bers of the local business community and depends entirely upon funding from private sources. The program had another successful year in 1995. There were 158 arrests, 403 cases cleared and \$679,712 worth of property recovered. The value of illicit drugs removed from the streets was \$807,450, there were 1,074 calls made to Crime Stoppers while rewards issued totaled \$25,325.

These are significant numbers and Crime Stoppers is having a positive effect upon the quality of life in our community. We can only achieve these successes through co-operative partnerships exemplified by this program.

Together Everyone Achieves More.

*Mr. Max Burtschyn makes a substantial donation to Hamilton-Wentworth Crime Stoppers, in memory of his wife Charlotte who passed away recently.*

## SENIOR SUPPORT TEAM

Scam artists, elder abuse and home or car safety are just some of the issues that were addressed during a six month project aimed at educating our senior citizens.

The Senior Support Team, composed of Constables, Glen Tyrrell and Elizabeth Latner, developed educational programs and presented them to clubs and organizations in Division 3. The idea was to provide seniors with



the tools they needed to stop them from becoming victims.

The support team also works with victims of crime and their families. They supported other investigations involving seniors and would follow up on investigations involving seniors in order to prevent further victimization or offer support during difficult incidents. In matters involving Elder Abuse, some seniors are unaware that they are being victimized, until advised or educated by these seminars. This support team goes a long way in addressing a segment of our population with specific needs.

Demographics indicate that our senior population is growing and this work will increase in the future.

*Sergeant Paul Morrison greets the 28 new members during the 1995 Auxiliary Police Graduation.*



## AUXILIARY POLICE

The fall of 1995 marked a major turning point for the Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police Auxiliary Branch. After a five year hiatus, the unit began accepting new recruits. An advertisement was placed in the Hamilton Spectator and 120 individuals applied for 30 vacancies.

In October, 30 hours of training was conducted in Use of Force, Firearms, Traffic direction and related law for the new recruits. In November, 28 new members were sworn in by Provincial Judge Peter Mitchell.

These 28 members brought the active total of auxiliary officers to sixty-two. The unit is now composed of one Inspector, two Staff Sergeants, three Sergeants and fifty-six Constables. Each officer is expected to contribute/volunteer 12 hours per month plus

attend one monthly evening training session.

The Auxiliary Officers are a vital support group and participate at many activities such as The Hamilton Air Show, Boy Scout/Girl Guide parade and yearly festivals in various parks throughout the Region. They have also assisted us during searches for evidence and missing persons.

## CRIME ANALYSIS

Investigative Services Division is tasked with a variety of investigative functions including Major Fraud, Vice & Drugs, Intelligence, Child Abuse, Family Violence and Major Crimes. For the past five years, the Division has included a Crime Analyst, Mrs. Nancy Kaneva. Her work has been invaluable to the success of the high profile work performed in this division.

An example of the work produced by the Crime Analyst is shown on the next page. The chart reflects an overview of the homicide rates for our Region during the past few years. Over the past eleven years there has been an average of 10.27 homicides each year. 1995 and 1985 were above the average and 1993 was below. There have been more First Degree Murder charges in the 90's as compared to the late 80's. The reported drug involvement of the studied homicides has been quite low. Alcohol use has remained constant during the study period. Domestic disputes, family members and associated male offenders have been more prevalent in recent years. Also death by shooting and the use of hand guns has increased in the past five years. "The homicide



*Crime Analyst, Nancy Kaneva is shown here with the latest crime fighting tool - a computer.*

increase in 1995 was an aberration brought about through incidents of multiple victims and will be normalized over the long term. The second chart reflects our

homicide clearance rate", reports Mrs. Kaneva.

The fundamental task of the Crime Analyst is to track all robberies and sexual assaults in order

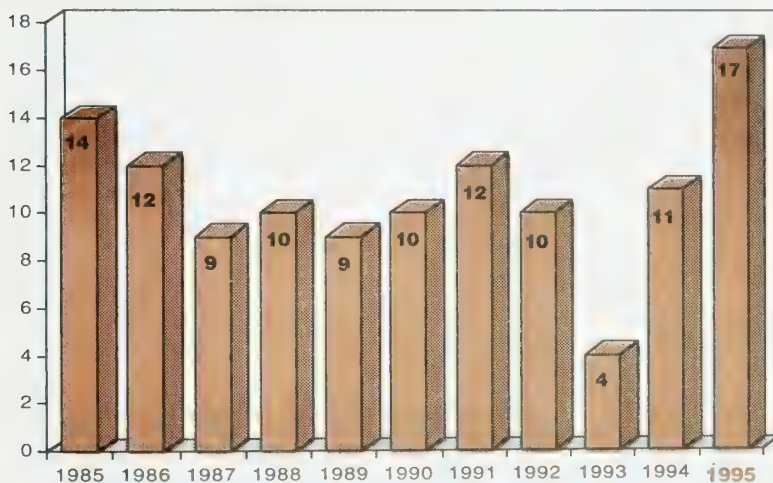
to quickly identify any incidents that may involve a serial criminal, either locally or provincially. The analyst submits all violent crimes such as homicides, sexual assaults and non-parental abductions to the Violent Crime Linkage Analysis System (ViCLAS) Unit. This system is linked across Canada and with the Violent Crime Analysis Program (ViCAP) of the F.B.I.

## VICTIM SERVICES

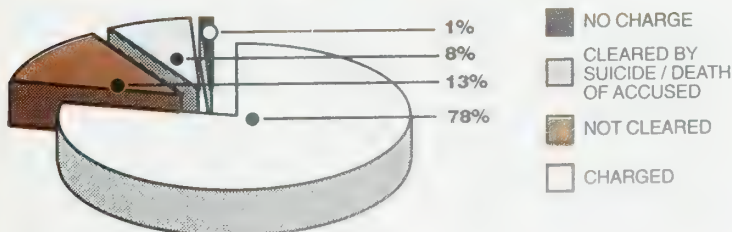
The Victim Services Branch continued to offer 24-hour, seven day-a-week crisis intervention and support service to all victims of crime and circumstance in our Region. During 1995, over 2720 victims were served by the Branch. This was a remarkable increase of 48% over last year. From this total, 900 people received personal contact while 1820 persons were contacted over the telephone.

Victim Services provides emotional and psychological support, information, referral and short term crisis intervention to all of our clients. This service could not be offered without the commitment and availability of our large assembly of trained volunteers. Supervision, co-ordination and comprehensive training programs for volunteers were provided by three efficient and capable staff members. The Branch continues to actively participate in our community through presentations, consultations, education and advocacy on behalf of their clients.

## Homicides Totals per year



## Homicides Statistics (1985-1995) Clearance Status







*Constable Beech, a member of our ERU Team is practicing an operations maneuver. Part of the mandate for the ERU Branch requires each member to train for operational requirements.*

During 1995, Victim Services continued to administer the Jackson Square Policing Centre in co-operation with Station 10

police officers. This centre is operated six days a week 9:30 am to 4:30 pm utilizing thirty-four trained volunteers, working in

partnership with beat officers. Over 12,000 persons accessed this service, an increase of 10% over 1994.

## **EMERGENCY RESPONSE UNIT (ERU)**

The year 1995 brought significant changes to the composition and operation of the Emergency Response Unit. The ERU in early 1995 was composed of sixteen Constables and one Sergeant. The officers worked in groups of four on each shift, within Central Uniform Patrol strength. The Sergeant was the only full-time member of ERU. This deployment clearly defined the ERU as a part-time unit.

Various studies of the ERU and other Emergency units led to several significant changes. The unit strength changed from sixteen constables assigned on a part-time basis, to twelve assigned to the unit full time. In April, the Unit was transferred from Central Patrol to the Operations Service Division.

The unit was deployed as a dedicated full-time Emergency Response Unit with two squads composed of six constables each. These squads are assigned to a 10-hour shift schedule. Their specific mandate is to train for ERU operational requirements, provide secondary support to uniform patrol for minor calls for service and to provide closer ERU support to patrol units by being physically present in the Patrol Divisions on a rotating basis.

The pace of training and the response to calls had to be maintained during the re-structuring period, and 1995 proved to be a busy year for ERU. There were 91

calls for service, nearly two per week. Of these, 38 were immediate response "weapons involved" calls. These and other calls resulted in 72 people being taken into custody. The other calls included twenty-seven to assist our detectives or other special services, seven barricaded persons, ten high-risk escorts, two VIP security and five miscellaneous responses.

1995 was a year of positive changes for the ERU. The new structure and deployment allows them to provide a more efficient and effective response to the high-risk needs of our community.

*The Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police Colour Guard and Pipes and Drums Band marching in the 1995 Christmas Parade.*

## **EXPLOSIVES DISPOSAL UNIT (EDU)**

A key component of the ERU is the Explosives Disposal Unit or EDU. The EDU consists of six technicians with specialized training to handle explosives-related calls. The unit was involved in 33 incidents in 1995.

The most serious involved pipe bombs, an improvised explosive device, and a hand grenade. One of the pipe bombs detonated during preparations to make it safe, another exploded before our team could get to it, and the hand grenade also exploded. None of the incidents, fortunately, caused injuries.

There were also several instances where EDU members were called out for suspicious packages, to recover found explosives and related investigations.

The fact that no one was

hurt during these incidents proves the value of the EDU training and the valuable service this support team provides.

## **COLOUR GUARD**

Over the years, our Service has been fortunate to host and take part in many civic and police conferences or ceremonial events. Our trained and professional volunteer Colour Guards add dignity, pomp and circumstance to many events locally and internationally.

In 1995, the Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police Colour Guard was used extensively for many civic functions. Some examples included parades and funerals, the National Night-Out and various displays held in conjunction with our Police Pipes and Drums and the Police Chorus.

The goal of the colour Guard was to promote the image of the







Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police Service through continued dedication and professionalism. They have obviously been very successful!

## PIPE BAND

The Hamilton Pipes and Drums actually predate the Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police. The Band has been a highly successful parade and show band, winning many trophies and prizes, and performing internationally.

In 1992, the band expanded its focus, incorporating the competition circuit at various Highland Games. Under the

direction of Pipe Major Don Forgan, the band improved steadily and moved upward through the rankings.

Subsequent to winning several Highland Games, the band was promoted to "Grade Three" in 1995. In a rarely seen occurrence, the band was highly successful against other, established Grade Three bands. The band placed second at the US open, second at the North American Championships and third at the Canadian Championships. The band either won or had strong finishes at other competitions.

These successes resulted in the Pipers and Pipe Bands Society of Ontario awarding the title

*Our HWRP Pipe Band and Staff Sergeant Robert Maxwell from the Colour Guard march past the historic James Street Armouries as part of a 1995 procession.*

"Grade Three Champions Supreme" to our Pipes and Drums, for the first time ever. This annual award was presented at the Highland Ball which is being held for the first time in Hamilton in February 1996.

The band continues to pride itself on promoting a positive image for our police service as it performs in parades, shows and competitions.

## DIVA IS SO GLAD TO BE HOME!

*Sally Mann, manager of canine operations for Canine Vision Canada, gets a big wet kiss from Diva, who was returned after she was stolen from a company van in downtown Hamilton. Police arrested a 15 year old boy. Diva was discovered in a home near Gage Park after police received a tip through Crime Stoppers. The 22-month old yellow Labrador retriever was valued at about \$5,000 because of the cost of training her as a guide dog for the blind. The youth, who cannot be identified because of his age, is charged with possession of stolen property worth more than \$5,000.*



## FIREARMS BRANCH

The year of 1995 has been a "struggle with the unknown" for the Firearms Branch, following the announcement of the controversial Bill C68. This new law was introduced in February 14, 1995 for its first reading in Parliament. As a result of this, the Firearms Branch answered hundreds of calls weekly, from members of the public. This situation continued until the Bill was given Royal Assent on December 5, 1995.

It is estimated that it will take approximately seven years for the Act to be completely implemented. In the midst of this contro-

versy, the Ontario Minister of Natural Resources announced a three month "grand fathering" program, regarding the type of safety course or knowledge required, in order to obtain a Firearms Acquisition Certificate (FAC). This in turn caused even more activity for the Firearms Branch.

Eventually an understanding was reached that other approved courses, tests or circumstances would be acceptable, instead of The Canadian Firearms Safety Test. This program was in effect from October 2 to December 31, 1995.

This "grand fathering" created panic from the public and

chaos for all police services in Ontario. It was a common occurrence for applications to be submitted whether they were needed or not, in order to avoid taking the FAC Test and, in anticipation of this new legislation. "We were swamped with people and telephone calls, FAC's became our breakfast, dinner, tea and supper", reported Firearms Officer Jenny Ball.

The regular daily work of our Firearms staff was placed on hold for weeks. Members of the public were lined up from the counter to the street during the last few days of December 1995. Approximately 2000 FAC applications were handled during the three



month period, almost half of them during the last week. An estimated 150,000 were received throughout the Province. "To say the least we had our share of 'FAC Madness', especially during the last few weeks", says Jenny Ball.

Firearms staff processed the following applications during the year: Restricted Weapon Registrations- 1,281, FAC Applications-517, Restricted Weapon "Carry Permits"-712, Permits to Transport-542, Permits to Minors-9.

## **POLICE DIVERS SYMPOSIUM**

Most of what they do can't be seen, but police divers are a valuable contribution to public safety, not only in Hamilton-Wentworth but around the world. The proof for this statement comes from the International Police Divers Symposium, held every two years in Hamilton and organized by HWRP Constables Rick Rozoski and Cameron Rumpel.

The sixth such event since inception, the 1995 symposium portrayed a whole new facet

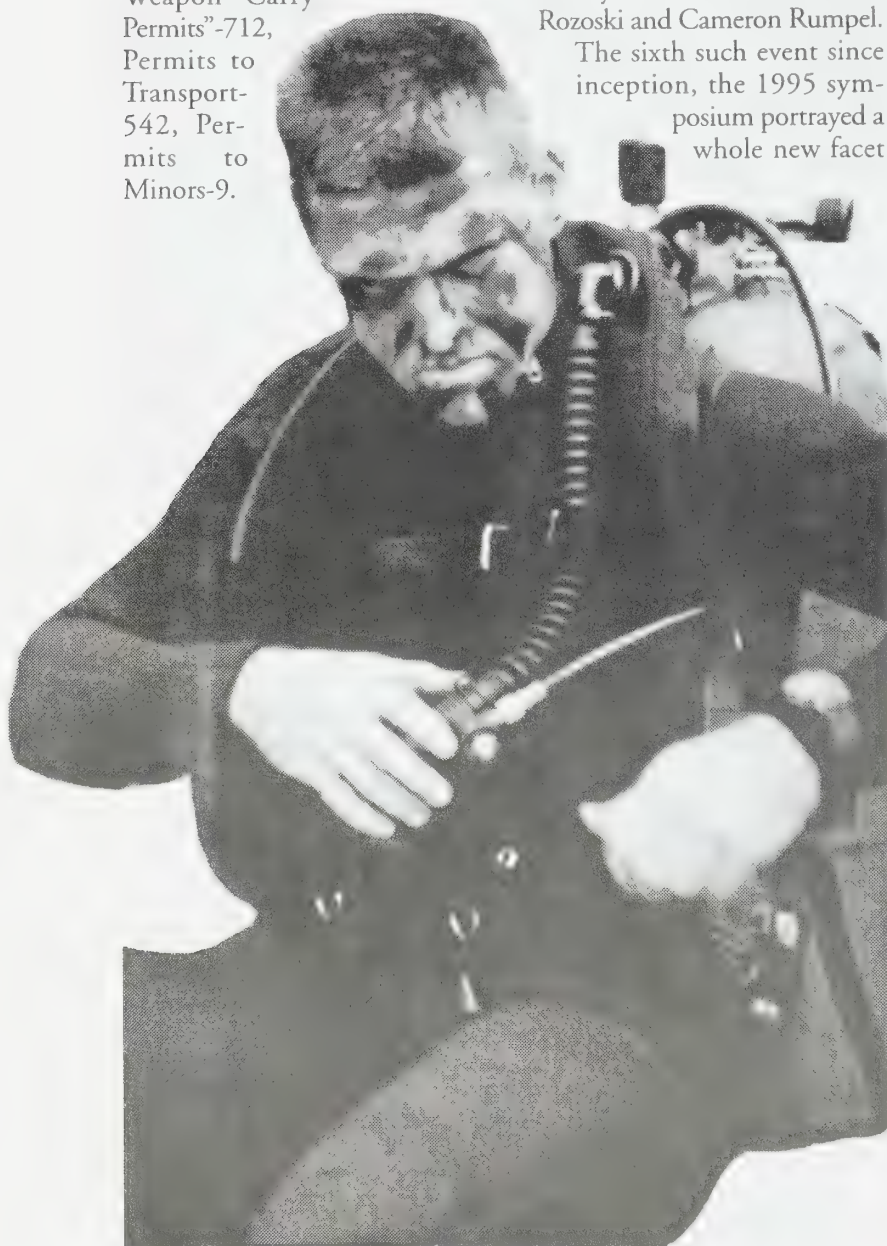
of "public safety diving." Thanks to the Canadian Forces, a team of combat divers showed how they would handle the ultimate response, when needed.

A barge, anchored in Hamilton Harbour, provided a platform for "armed extremists" trying to steal a valuable cargo. In less than 20 minutes, the Canadian Forces team made a covert underwater approach, boarded the vessel, and captured the extremists, freeing several hostages safely in the process. The whole process was visible from a viewing area at the Canada Centre for Inland Waters, and was made possible by co-operation from Philip Environmental and McKieil Work Boats.

The fame of the Divers Symposium, the only such event in the world, has spread the name of our Service and our Region around the world. For example, the Government of Bermuda, faced with an increased responsibility in their seas due to the withdrawal of American and Canadian naval bases, learned of the symposium and sent a team to make contacts and watch and learn. The O.P.P. have now been commissioned to organize and train a full underwater, search and recovery unit for Bermuda.

Underwater specialists from all over the globe attend as lecturers and participants. Key topics for 1995 covered the air crash disaster at the Toronto Air Show last year, police diving in Northern Ireland, and underwater recovery after a train wreck in Nakima, Washington.

*A member of the Police Divers Symposium prepares his equipment for the display.*





There were also numerous practical demonstrations of technique and equipment on Hamilton Harbour, including the huge Canadian Forces Labrador Search and Rescue helicopter from C.F.B. Trenton.

The next symposium is in 1997 - it will be hard to top 1995!

### **DOG GONE IT! STORM RETIRES!**

The calm is after the storm as Police Service Dog, "Storm" and his handler, Constable Glenn Bullock retire from the Canine Unit.

After serving with the unit for five years, making over 100 arrests, recovering over \$150,000 worth of property and co-ordinating the K-9 Branch for the past two years; Glenn and Storm officially turned over the leash to newly appointed co-ordinator Constable Paul Cairns on December 12, 1995.

*Police Service Dog "Storm" is clearly grateful as his partner Constable Glenn Bullock offers a retirement bonus.*

Storm's replacement "Ricko", a Belgium Malinois dog imported from Holland and his handler Constable Dave Mislip were ready to jump into action after completing 14 weeks of training.





# **Awards and People**



*Constable Myra James demonstrates the proper stance for a combat style shooting competition.*



*Constable Margaret Couch posing during the Ontario Provincial Championships.*

## **PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS**

### **Constable is Top Bodybuilder**

Keeping physically fit requires determination and hard work. Many of our members realize the benefits of fitness and make time to exercise regularly.

For Constable Margaret Couch, a two year member of our service, her dedication to "pumping iron" has ultimately paid off. She placed second in the Western Ontario Body Building Championships and second in the Ontario Provincial Championships.

In addition to fitness and nutrition, "body building takes an incredible amount of inner strength", says Constable Couch. "It makes you very determined and self-sufficient, requiring an intense level of will-power and a true concept of commitment".

Constable Couch now qualifies for a spot in next year's Canadian Championships to be held in Hamilton.

### **Local Constable Wins "Top shot"**

Learning how to use a handgun is a necessary part of every police officer's job. In addition, many officers practice target shooting as a hobby. Speed, accuracy and safety are the skills acquired by our officers to expertly handle their firearms.

Constable Myra James proved she had them all by winning first prize in a revolver competition at the International Association of Women Police conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Using a borrowed revolver, Constable James vied with seventy-two other participants. "It wasn't easy", noted Constable James. "I was permitted to dry-fire prior to the competition, however, no practice shots were allowed." Each competitor fired 100 rounds. Obviously, Myra placed them all on target!



## MEMBER OF THE MONTH

The "Member of the Month" award was introduced in 1994 by a Hamilton man who wanted to express his appreciation to our Service but remain anonymous. His financial assistance made this program possible and includes a \$500 donation to the charity of the recipients' choice.

### January

Detective Robert Wild  
Detective Constables Ralph Sharp  
& Paul Dempsey  
Station 30 Divisional Detectives



A 31 year-old woman was alone and asleep in her home when a man broke in. He ransacked the house, sexually assaulted the woman, then stole her purse and car. The car was recovered 7 weeks later and fingerprint evidence revealed a suspect. The detectives, however had no fingerprint evidence to place this suspect with the victim. Their investigation into DNA evidence, however, absolutely estab-

lished that the same suspect was responsible for the sexual assault. This type of investigation was unprecedented and will be used as a model.

### February

Constable Mark Simchison  
Station 20 Patrol



Constable Mark Simchison was at his residence when a female neighbour began frantically banging on the door. She was carrying her 2-week old child who was not breathing. Mark calmly took the baby, cleared the child's airway, and restored the baby's breathing. Mark's quick, calm actions saved the baby's life.

### March

Constable Rob Mayea  
School Liaison Officer, Station 20



Constable Mayea was on uniform patrol when he was informed of the suspicious activities of two men in a parking lot. Rob knew that an armed robbery had just occurred at the Avestel Credit Union about five blocks away. Realizing these were probably the suspects, he blocked their escape with his police vehicle and then challenged both men. Eventually both men were arrested. A sawed-off shotgun and the stolen money from Avestel Credit Union were recovered.

### April

Constable Tom McKittrick &  
Police Service Dog "Rudy"



On a bitterly cold day, Constable Tom McKittrick and P.S.D. Rudy were called to search a wooded area for a woman known to be suicidal. Her outer clothing was found near a deep creek and within 20 minutes, Rudy located her laying in some heavy marsh grass. The

woman was in the latter stages of hypothermia. Tom removed his jacket and sweater and used them as a blanket for her. Tom and Rudy layed beside the woman and used their body heat to keep her warm until the ambulance arrived 40 minutes later. The quick actions of this K-9 team saved the woman's life.

### May

Constable Lis Latner  
Station 31, Patrol Division



On her own initiative, Constable Latner spent months, including many off-duty hours, organizing a "Security For Seniors" seminar which addressed a wide spectrum of issues from "abuse" to the "quality of life". One-hundred seniors from the Waterdown and Flamborough area participated, along with 18 community senior-oriented groups. The seminar proved to be an effective workshop, providing a solid foundation for developing increased sensitivity and understanding when dealing with seniors.

### June

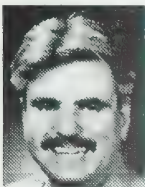
Constable Mark Cox  
Station 20, Uniform Patrol



Constable Cox was enroute to work when he saw a vehicle being driven in a dangerous manner. One wheel was completely off, and it was traveling on its brake drum, leaving a trail of sparks. Mark pursued and with the help of a citizen, he apprehended the suspects after a brief foot chase. During the arrest, Mark suffered an injury to his leg, ankle and finger and his own vehicle's windshield was smashed.

## July

Constable Greg Iovacchini  
Station 20, Uniform Patrol



Constable Greg Iovacchini was driving with his wife and children when he noticed a car he believed to be stolen. They pulled up beside this car which sped away. Greg instructed his wife to follow. The pursued car stopped and the driver and passenger ran off. Greg gave chase on foot and caught the driver while his sons called police.

## August

Constable Ron Seniunas  
Station 10, Uniform Patrol



Constable Ron Seniunas was at home when he noticed a carload of youths pull into a vacationing neighbour's driveway. Four of the occupants left the car and began to check homes on the street. Ron called 911 and kept in contact with the police as he followed the suspect car. The vehicle was stopped by a responding officer and the two occupants were arrested. Ron then came across the four other youths carrying bags filled with stolen property. They fled as Greg approached, however, all of the stolen property from a house entry was recovered.

## September

Detective Constable Reg Downer  
Child Abuse Branch



Detective Constable Reg Downer was driving his car when he came across a single-car roll over, with four people trapped. Fuel was dripping in and around the car, creating a very dangerous situation. Reg stopped and began removing the trapped people. He broke the car's rear window, crawled inside and rescued the occupants.

## October

Detectives Terry Hill, Chris Abbott, Frank Harild, Peter Abi-Rashed, Detective-Sergeant Steve Hrab Identification Branch and Major Crime Team



These detectives investigated the disappearance of Penny Wristen as reported by her husband. Over three months, pieces of evidence were accumulated by the investigative team which suggested the husband was responsible for his wife's disappearance. Penny's body has never been found. However, circumstantial evidence along with scientific evidence was strong enough to arrest the husband for the murder of his wife in February 1994. He was convicted in his 1995 trial.

## November

Constable Larry Buist &  
Constable Dave Farrell  
Station 10, Uniform Patrol



A masked-man armed with a handgun walked into Hamilton Jewelers and robbed the proprietor. The storekeeper alerted a passing patrol wagon with officers Larry Buist and Dave Farrell aboard. The officers gave chase and managed to grab the suspect as he attempted to dive into a waiting car through his window. The man and the driver were arrested, and weapons and \$15,000 worth of stolen rings were recovered.

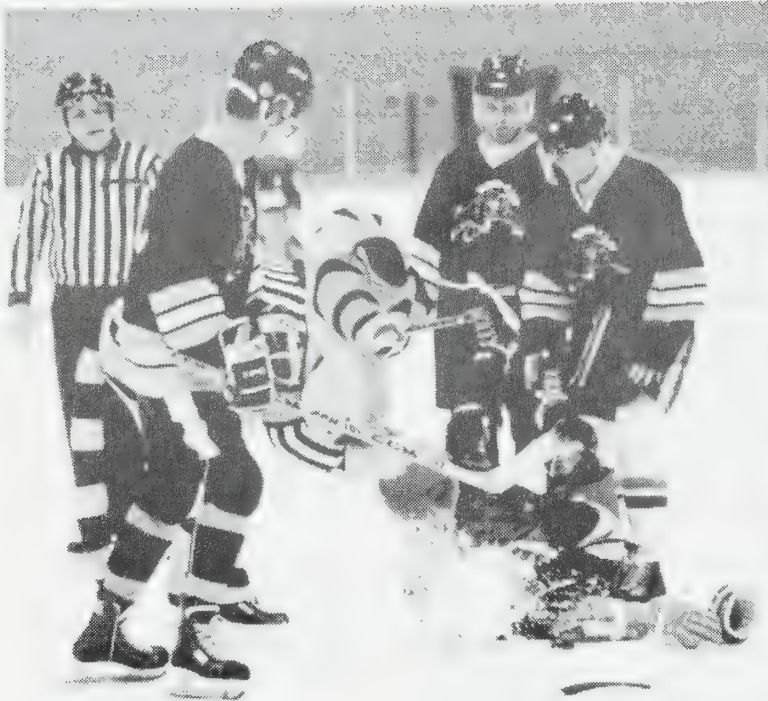
## December

Detective Constable David Doel  
Identification Services



A shotgun-wielding hoodlum had robbed five variety stores in central Hamilton. Detective Constable Doel was patrolling the area in his unmarked police car when he spotted a youth who fit the suspect's description. A foot chase ensued when he tried to approach the youth. Other officers were called into the area and the suspect was quickly arrested. As a result of Detective Constable Doel's alertness and quick actions, a very dangerous 18 year-old bandit, who had previously escaped from a youth facility, was apprehended and taken off the streets.





*Above: Officers compete in the Annual Police Bedrace during the Teddy Bear picnic at Chedoke Hospital. Left: Members of the Hamilton Tiger Cats have some fun with TC Tiger.*

## DO WE CARE?

A 1995 survey conducted by our Community Services Branch revealed just how involved our members were with community agencies and charitable work. The results show that our members don't stop contributing to our community when their shift ends.

The survey confirmed that a tremendous number of our members are involved outside their regular duties with some form of volunteer work. As other stories elsewhere in this report show, some members are involved year-round with a specific organization, while others contribute time to specific events. Still other members support activities and groups through monetary donations, while some do all three!

It is not possible to include all the events that were organized and/or played last year but the few events outlined below illus-

trate their depth of commitment

Station 30 "D" squad organized an invitational "3 on 3" basketball tournament for the second year with all 14 high schools within Division #3. The event was sponsored by the East Kiwanis Service Club. The same squad also hosted a "4 on 4" hockey tournament with ten Mountain area high schools. CHML/Y95 was the sponsor and competed as part of the Police Team.

Station 20 (East End) staff put together a mixed volleyball team and pitted themselves against the Orchard Park Senior Girls Volleyball Team. Several boxes of non-perishable food items were collected along with \$300 in cash donations all of which was donated to the Stoney Creek Food Bank.

Some prominent events such as the Special Olympics Torch Run raise considerable amounts of money every year. When you add up the low-profile examples

listed here, our annual total is quite impressive.

A Sunday afternoon "Cops and Blockers" charity hockey game involving members of our police service and players from the Hamilton Tiger Cats raised money for the Special Olympics and the S.T.A.R. (Skills Through Recreation and Activity) program of Hamilton. The Chedoke Arena was filled to capacity with a crowd of 600 who watched a fine hockey game.

The NHL Old Timers laced up to take on Hamilton's finest in yet another charity match at Copps Coliseum. Before a crowd of 10,000, the Law Enforcement team of HWRP, O.P.P. and RCMP officers, were defeated by 12-8. The real winners were the Special Olympians with net proceeds from the game in excess of \$17,000 going to their charity.

The "TIP-A-COP" event at Red Lobster Restaurant is part of

a North American-wide promotion in support of Special Olympics. Police officers serve as "celebrity" table servers, assisting staff and collecting voluntary donations from the customers. "Greeters" in 1995 included Special Olympians Chuck Restivo and Alanna Henwood, Mayor Ann Bain of Stoney Creek, Mayor Bob Morrow of Hamilton, and Darrel Harley of the Hamilton Tiger cats. CHCH-TV weather-man Matt Hayes was also on hand and provided an entertaining live broadcast. The total amount raised topped \$1,000.

*Constable Gallacher transports her new precious package to the ambulance.*



The Annual Teddy Bears' Picnic at Chedoke Hospital grounds included the Fourth annual Police Challenge Bedrace. Teams including the Runaway Wagon (Court Security); The Pogs (captained by P.C. Denise Leonard); Metropol Security (MUMC Parking and Security) and Halton Regional Police raised \$2,000 for Chedoke-McMaster Children's Foundation.

The 14th Annual Denis Williams Slo-Pitch Tournament is sponsored by the Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police Association. It includes teams from law-enforcement agencies from around the Golden Horseshoe and the United States. The Children's Wish Foundation received \$3,000 from the 1995 event.

CHML Radio's Christmas Tree Of Hope encourages citizens and organizations to donate money to improve Christmas for less fortunate families in our community. Our Police Association donated over \$600 while officers from Station 31 (Dundas) personally donated another \$300.

Our members are modest and content with their personal commitments. Collectively, we represent not only a Police Service, but a Community Service and that should make us all very proud.

## **ALL PART OF THE JOB!**

Our "New Service Delivery" program was given a different meaning when Constable Erin Gallacher responded to an emergency on August 30.

Constable Gallacher had switched her normal shift with a police officer from another squad. She was at a call on Mary Street when she was suddenly called-on to help deliver a baby several doors down the street. The expectant mother had gone into labour on the living room couch. Her expected date for delivery was not planned for another two and a half months. When P.C. Gallacher arrived at the scene, the baby's head was already visible. Because she was a former paramedic, Erin was able to quickly take control of the situation and put her emergency medical training to use immediately.

"I told the nervous mother to relax, assured her that everything would be fine and I coached her through the birthing process," Constable Gallacher said with pride. With quick action and great



presence of mind, she helped deliver a healthy baby boy in a crisis situation. This special experience will remain with Constable Gallacher for a long time. As she said, "this gratifying experience is all part of the job!"

## **AWARDS**

Many of our employees were honoured outside our Service in 1995 for acts of bravery that saved lives or dedicated service that enriched our neighbourhoods and encouraged our children.

These achievements reflect a sense of professionalism, leadership and teamwork and show that our members have a great deal of compassion and dedication to their communities. The following stories are representative of the many actions which occurred during the past year.

### **Ontario Medal for Police Bravery**

Constable Tom Britt was off-duty and at home on November 11, 1994, when he was alerted to an emergency near by. A neighbour was threatening to kill himself with a shotgun and was blocking the door into a basement room.

Constable Britt first evacuated the man's wife and then attempted to talk him out of the suicidal act. The man nevertheless tried to pull the trigger. The guns' safety catch jammed giving the officer time to force his way into the room. After a brief struggle, the man was disarmed and taken to St. Joseph's Hospital for assessment. Tom later initiated the removal of all firearms from the house. There is no doubt that his actions saved a life that day, at

grave danger to himself

Constable Britt was personally awarded the Ontario Medal for Police Bravery by Ontario Lieutenant-Governor Hal Jackman at a ceremony in Queen's Park during the summer of 1995. Officer Britt was earlier honoured for his efforts with the St. John's Life Savers Award.

### **Neighbourhood Award**

Constables Doug Ordowich and John Lewington were awarded a plaque by the Lansdale Neighbourhood Association for their commitment to working with the community to solve local problems. Both officers were part of Core Patrol, "B" Squad, Station 10, which includes the Lansdale Neighbourhood. These two officers dedicated themselves to cleaning-up the core and surrounding areas of drug dealers and other criminal elements. Their self-motivation and perseverance led to numerous arrests which reduced much criminal activity from their beat. These two officers are an outstanding example to the community.

### **Fund Raising Award**

CHCH TV, the Hamilton Spectator, Y95 Radio and our Service were presented the prestigious Pinnacle Award by the Canadian Public Relations Society for excellence in the Fund-Raising Campaign category.

The three media outlets in partnership with a platoon of officers from Station 10 'C' squad, under the supervision of Sergeants Dave Long and Peter Ciere, carried a message to our community about the growing number of

underprivileged, hungry citizens during our Fourth Annual Christmas Food Drive

Citizens of our Region responded by dropping off approximately 26,000 pounds of food plus several hundred toys for the Hamilton Food Share. This was more than double the amount of food collected in 1994.

### **City of Hamilton Sports Council Volunteer Award**

"I do it for the kids". Those words captured a City Of Hamilton Sports Council Volunteer Award for Identification Branch's Detective Terry Hill, who has spent the past 12 years heavily involved in local minor sports. He notes however that the work goes back much farther than that.

He was involved as a child with the old Hamilton Police Minor Baseball Association. "That was my league," says Terry. "We had the awards at the old Tivoli Theatre, it was a great league. I'm now returning the favour." Terry volunteered originally with his son's bowling team when he noticed other parents weren't helping out. "I'm a shift worker, I have to attend court on my days off, if I can do it, people can't look me in the eye and say they're too busy!"

The Sports Council award goes to volunteers with at least ten years of service. Terry's hard work, although on behalf of "...the kids", is symbolic of all those from our Service who contribute their own time to the community.

## APPRECIATION & AWARDS NIGHT

Every year in Hamilton-Wentworth, many citizens go out of their way to help our officers, often risking serious injury or death to do so. Others form partnerships as members of our advisory teams, volunteers and event sponsors.

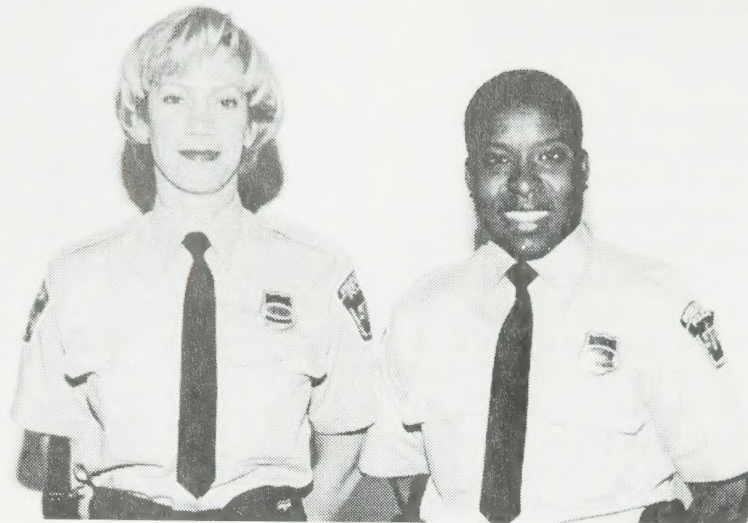
Police Week is the ideal opportunity to say thanks to these citizens through our annual Appreciation and Awards night. This event also pays tribute to our sworn members with exemplary service.

The 1995 Police Awards event was held at Theatre Aquarius. Designed like a mini "Junos", the night was a fast paced stage show, highlighted with a stage performance by the Westdale Players, students from Westdale Secondary School. The play had a theme of anti-drinking and driving and was presented in association with the Trauma Prevention Council.

The ceremony recognized the award recipients, and educated our guests about the perils of drinking and driving. The new format worked extremely well, allowing for over 100 presentations in less than two hours. This venue was an excellent way to salute our community heroes and promote our Service.

The awards and recognition covered a wide range of activities, from highly meritorious police work to acts of bravery or compassion by members of the public.

Mr. David Cunningham exemplifies the 30 citizens honoured for brave conduct with the Award of Courage for risking their life or personal safety to



help others in need. A neighbour came to Mr. Cunningham's house seeking refuge from her husband. Mr. Cunningham called the police and waited outside for their arrival. The suspect approached the house with a knife and during the confrontation, Mr. Cunningham was severely cut. He continued to intervene for the safety of his wife and victim. He got control of the man's knife and held him until police arrived.

Mr. Robert Saunders was one of 28 recipients of the Partnership Award, given for outstanding contribution in making our Region a safer community. Mr. Saunders found a disoriented female in a field. The woman was soaking wet from rain and snow, and was in the early stages of hypothermia. He brought the woman into his house, gave her a change of clothing and fed her. There is no doubt that Mr. Saunders' actions saved this woman's life.

Constables Marcine Blake and Yolanda Bowerbank were awarded Citations of Merit in recognition of their dramatic res-

***Constables Marcine Blake and Yolanda Bowerbank were awarded Citations of Merit.***

cue of a suicidal man. While the officers were speaking to the man, he ran out to his apartment balcony, climbed onto the railing and attempted to jump off. Both officers rushed the man and pulled him back from the brink, saving his life.

Constable Rob Mayea, the School Liaison Officer for Division Two was chosen for the 1995 Leonard G. Lawrence Award. P.C. Mayea has made great strides in gaining respect from members of the Boards of Education, the educators within the schools and their students. Leonard G. Lawrence was Chief of the City of Hamilton Police Department from 1952 to 1973. He fostered a strong sense of duty and commitment to the community. In his memory, an award was created to recognize police officers who share this same sense of community commitment during the execution of their duties.



### **The Police Exemplary Service Medal**

The Police Exemplary Service Medal was authorized by Her Majesty the Queen in 1983 as a national honour. The medal is tangible, national recognition for 20 years of exemplary police service. The design is simple, and reflects its purpose: the scales of justice over our national emblem, the maple leaf. It is a medal that is worn with pride. Recipients who complete a further ten years of exemplary service are awarded a bar to their medal.

### **The Police Exemplary Service Medal Recipients:**

Gary Bishop	Don Dixon
Russ Gordon	Mike Joy
Doug Langdon	Brian Mullan
Vic Rees	Larry Turner
Bill Watts	Mike Cruse
Steve Hrab	Elliott Jurek
John Majik	Bryan Sharp
Bill Cumber	Rick Wills
Stewart Jones	Tom Marlor
Bob Precious	Robert Watts
Jim Cairns	Pat Keller
Charlie Steeves	
Dominic Palmieri	
Ken Engelbrecht	
Frank Venturelli	

### **Thirty Year Bar Recipients:**

Wayne Clark  
David Matteson  
Marshall Deakin  
Robert Moore  
Bernard Evans  
Charlie Weech

### **The Auxiliary Police Exemplary Service Medal**

Our Auxiliary Officers are eligible for the Ontario Auxiliary Police Medal. It is awarded for twenty years of continuous service in recognition of their contribution to policing and the community. The medals recognize efficient and faithful service and the devotion and discipline of our Officers. Our Service is proud to honour the 1995 recipients.

### **Ontario Auxiliary Police Medal Recipients:**

Charles Sullivan

### **Thirty Year Bar Recipients**

John Driscoll  
Jim Antinori

### ***Acknowledgments***

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#### ***Design & Printing***

*Graphics Branch, Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police*

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